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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

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CONGRESS EXCLUDES LABOR AND FARMERS' UNIONS FROM PROSECUTION UNDER ANTI-TRUST LAW

DURING the Sixty-second Congress an amendment to the Sundry Civil Bill was offered in the House of Representatives by Representative Hamill of New Jersey prohibiting the expenditure of any money appropriated for the purpose of prosecuting illegal combinations in restraint of trade to be used in the prosecution of labor organizations. A second amendment was offered by Representative Roddenbery of Georgia containing a proviso including the farmers' unions and associations. These amendments were adopted and became a part of the bill, which finally passed. The bill then went to the Senate, where the two amendments were accepted unanimously. In the closing hours of the Sixty-second Congress President Taft vetoed the bill solely becauseof the two amendments referred to. The House, immediately upon being notified of the veto, passed the bill over the President's head by an overwhelming vote. The bill would have also been passed over the President's veto in the Senate had it not been for the parliamentary situation, which precluded an opportunity to get a vote on it before adjournment. Upon the opening of the Sixty-third Congress the Sundry Civil Bill, in its original form, was introduced in the House. Immediately the National Association of Manufacturers, and, in fact, all other hostile associations, began a campaign to secure the defeat of the provisions relating to the labor organizations and farmers' unions. Representatives and Senators were flooded with communications, telegrams, and other literature urging the defeat of the two amendments. Lobbies were sent to Washington also to "labor" with the members of Congress for the same purpose. Every scheme and influence was connived and used to secure the elimination of these amendments from the bill. Notwithstanding these efforts, however, the House of Representatives passed the Sundry Civil Bill with the amendments included. When the measure went to the Senate the National Manufacturers' Association and its kindred spirits, having failed in their purpose in the House, redoubled their efforts to achieve their ends in the Senate. Every device known to this galaxy of union haters was used, but the righteousness of the cause of labor and the farmers appealed with greater force to the majority of the Senators than did the mercenary efforts of the commercial buccaneers, who attempt upon all occasions, to use the law making branch of the government to serve private ends. The Senate sustained the labor and farmer amendments by a vote of 41 to 32. The measure now goes to the President for his approval or disapproval. The President has stated in recent conferences with the leaders of the House and Senate that the two amendments relating to labor organizations and farmers' unions will prove no bar to his signing the bill. That the record may be complete, the vote is here given:

THOSE VOTING FOR LABOR AND FARMERS:

Ashurst
Bacon
Bryan
Clarke, Ark.
Fletcher
Gore.
Hitchcock
Hollis
Hughes
James
Johnson, Me.
Johnston, Ala.
Jones
Kern
La Follette
Lea
Lewis
Martin, Va.
Martine, N. J.
Myers
Newlands
Norris
O'Gorman
Overman
Ransdell
Reed
Robinson
Saulsbury
Shafroth
Sheppard
Shields
Simmons
Smith, Ga.
Smith, Md.
Smith, S. C.
Swanson
Thompson
Thornton
Vardaman
Walsh
Williams

THOSE VOTING AGAINST LABOR AND FARMERS:

Borah
Brandegee
Bristow
Burton
Clapp
Colt
Crawford
Cummins
du Pont
Gallinger
Goff
Gronna
Lippitt
Lodge
McCumber
McLean
Nelson
Page
Perkins
Pomerene
Root
Sherman
Smith, Mich.
Smoot
Stephenson
Sterling
Sutherland
Thomas
Townsend
Warren
Weeks
Works

THOSE NOT VOTING:

Bankhead
Bradley
Brady
Burleigh
Catron
Chamberlain
Chilton
Clark, Wyo.
Culberson
Dillingham
Fall
Jackson
Kenyon
Lane
Oliver
Owen
Penrose
Pittman
Poindexter
Shively
Smith, Ariz.
Stone
Tillman

It will be noted that three Republicans voted for the amendments championed by labor organizations and the farmers—Senators La Follette of Wisconsin, Norris of Nebraska, and Jones of Washington.

FORT WORTH WANTS CREDIT

Asserts First Clerks' Minimum Wage Scale Adopted in South.

WAS FOUGHT FOR AND WON

Retail Clerks' Union Responsible for Initiating Standard for Salespeople.

Fort Worth, Tex., May 10.—The Union Banner, the local labor paper, in a recent issue, editorially, said: "For a week or more nearly every newspaper we have seen contains a news item stating that a certain Washington merchant had established a minimum wage scale for his retail lady clerks, fixing it at $8 per week. The very first minimum wage scale for female clerks was established some ten years ago by the Fort Worth Retail Clerks' Union. After a struggle lasting for several weeks $5 was established as the minimum. The following year this was increased to $6 per week. Some three or four years ago one of our department store owners established a minimum wage scale for his establishment of $9 a week, this being the smallest sum paid even a beginner, whether man or woman. This merchant informed us of what he had done several months after its inauguration, but pledged us not to publish his name. Even now he will not give his consent to having any publicity given, though in union circles the information has spread. Speaking of this minimum wage scale he said he was prompted to establish it by a feeling that he could afford it, and that not to do so would be wrong. In other words it was a matter of conscience, but after experimenting with it for a few months he said he found it to be the best movement he had ever inaugurated—that it was one of the best investments he had ever made." There can be no objection in placing credit where credit is due and it is devoutly to be hoped that occurrences of this kind will have the effect of establishing minimum wage scales in every industry where women are employed that rise well above the necessity line.

SIOUX CITY PAINTERS WIN.

Sioux City, Iowa, May 10.—The strike of the union painters is over. The master painters, realizing the hopelessness of continuing the contest, have accepted the new wage scale and signed the agreement. Union conditions will hereafter prevail, despite the interference of the Commercial Club and the suggestions of the union-busting industrial association. Every union painter in Sioux City is now at work receiving 45 cents an hour, with a forty-eight-hour week. Since the difficulty with the master painters, a large number of new members have been added to the local union, and there is said to be only four painters in the city now working in one-man shops in this vicinity.

STRIKE SETTLED.

Auburn, N. Y., May 10.—The striking employes of the International Harvester Company's twine mill have returned to work. The men accepted the terms drawn up and submitted by Edward P. Chapman, personal representative of Gov. Sulzer. It will be remembered that this company made a threat to move its plant to Germany and in the pursuance of that threat dismantled a portion of the mill. Owing to this fact all of the men could not be put back to work at once, but it is stated that as soon as the machinery is reinstalled all will be given employment.

SHOP TRADES SUCCESSFUL.

Washington, May 10.—President Ryan, of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, reports that a settlement has just been reached with the Southern Railway and allied lines, which constitute an immense mileage, whereby all shop trades have been granted a substantial increase, the carmen receiving a 2 cent per hour raise, applying to the entire system. The settlement in this case is retroactive, in that the new scale is effective from April 1.

BROTHERHOOD OF CARMEN.

Kansas City, Mo., May 10.—The Brotherhood of Railway Carmen has organized a new lodge at Sherbrook, Quebec, Canada. The System Federation on the Rock Island system has reached a settlement with the management. The negotiations were conducted in an amicable manner, and the members of the carmen's organization will receive an increase in pay ranging from ½ cent to 2 cents per hour.

RAILROAD TELEGRAPHERS.

St. Louis, Mo., May 10.—Henry B. Perham, President of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers, states that during the month of April the organization secured revised contracts and increases in wages on the following railroads: New York, Ontario and Western; Atlantic Coast Line; Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburg; Temeskaming and Northern Ontario; New York, New Haven and Hartford; Boston and Maine, and the Boston Terminal Company.

CHICAGO GARMENT WORKERS.

Chicago, May 10.—The joint board of the United Garment Workers has begun an active canvass to unionize the entire industry in this city. Members of the local unions recently formed committees and visited the employes of the association's shops in their homes on the West and North side. Through racial and neighborhood ties the union workers are in touch with a large percentage of the unorganized workers. During a day and evening set apart for this work volunteers and committees consumed the entire time in talking to garment workers about the situation. The campaign is largely of an educational trend, explaining the advantages to be gained by being members of the union and the results achieved by the workers in the garment trades where full co-operation has been had. It is stated that everywhere the volunteer organizers were received with welcome and all garment workers appeared eager to secure the information which was imparted. Literature printed in various languages is being distributed, and already the effect can be visibly seen in the increased number of applications being received by the local unions. Those in charge of the organization movement are proceeding with great energy, but with equal caution. It is proposed to thoroughly interest and educate the unorganized employes before taking any decisive action.

BREWERY WORKERS' VICTORY.

St. Louis, Mo., May 10.—After nearly a month of conferences and negotiations, the brewery workers of this city have secured a new three-year agreement and a blanket increase of $2 per week for all members. The agreement is retroactive and is to be paid from April 1. The managers of the breweries had fought the increase stubbornly, having offered a compromise of $1.25 per week increase. Every local union involved ballotted upon this offer, and it was almost unanimously rejected. This fact being made known to the brewery owners, it was only a short time until the employers acceded to the demand for the $2 increase. Owing to the $5 raise granted the engineers a year ago they made no wage demands at this time, and their scale remains as heretofore. Under the new agreement, firemen will now get from $16.75 to $18; oilers, $17 to $20; brewers and maltsters, $21 to $22; freight handlers, ice plant workers, and laborers, $15.50 to $17.60; peddlers, $16 to $18, and girls, $9 to $10.

FEDERATION IS RECOGNIZED

Railroad Company Enters Joint Agreement with Shop Crafts.

MATERIAL INCREASE SECURED

Settlement Will Have Far-reaching Effect in Trades on Railroads.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, May 10.—A victory for the system Shop Federation has been gained by the general committees of the Rock Island in securing concessions from the general management in Chicago, which will result in substantial increases in pay of all men employed in the local shops. Under the terms of the new agreement the Rock Island system is brought to the standard of other roads in the competitive field throughout the Western country. The most important feature in connection with the present status of affairs is the recognition of the System Federation movement and the securing of joint agreements covering all crafts which expire at the same time. Under the terms of the contract the Machinists, Boilermakers, and Boilermakers' Helpers secured increases at this point of 2 cents per hour, while the Carmen secured 1-2 to 2 cents increase, with adjustments at certain points on the system ranging from 2 cents to 6 cents. This includes, at Cedar Rapids, the Sheet Metal Workers and Painters, who are a part of this organization. The Blacksmiths and Helpers get raises and adjustments running from 1½ cents per hour to 6 cents. Apprentices in all crafts are granted the same ratio of gain as are the journeymen. In Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, and Southern points the maximum increase is ½ cent lower than in Cedar Rapids.

CARMEN GET INCREASE.

Seattle, May 10.—A new wage scale has been granted by the court to the employes of the Seattle, Renton and Southern Railway Company, all of whom are members of the union. The schedule becomes effective at once, and provides an increase of 1 cent an hour to all classes up to the fourth year, when a flat wage of 32 cents per hour is to be the scale.

AUTO WORKERS GET INCREASE.

Cleveland, May 10.—The Winton Automobile Company has granted an increase of 10 per cent to all its employes, numbering about 1,100. The reason for this increase is because of the fact that there are a considerable number of the employes members of the Automobile Workers' Union.

BANNER YEAR IS PREDICTED

Philadelphia Building Trades Show Splendid Activity.

DIFFERENCES ARE ELIMINATED

Increases in Membership and Wage Scales Follow Broad Policy of Forbearance.

Philadelphia, May 10.—The Philadelphia Trade Union News, in its last issue, says: "The outlook for the Building Trades Council this year is one of the most promising in the history of Philadelphia. Factional differences that have existed for many years have been obliterated through the good work of the officers and the organization committee. Membership in the various locals has been increased 25 per cent. Employers are so well satisfied with the fairness of the attitude of the Building Trades Council during the past year that little or no trouble will be experienced by the various locals that have arranged a schedule of increased wages. Elevator constructors are holding conferences weekly with large firms and have announced that no trouble is expected. The constructors demand an increase from 56 1-4 cents to 65 cents an hour and an advance for the helpers from 37 1-2 cents to 42 1-2 cents per hour. The Brotherhood of Carpenters has received assurances of the largest contractors in the city that their demands for a 5-cent per hour increase will be granted June 1. Hoisting engineers have now a 100 per cent organization, and their demands for a new schedule of wages has been acceded to by most of the employers. The lathers expect to secure a new and favorable agreement without difficulty. The painters have been successful in the last two weeks in enforcing their wage scale of 42 1-2 cents per hour in all large shops in the city with one exception. As a general preposition, the building trades are in splendid shape and ready for the big building season which is now at hand."

SIGN FIRST AGREEMENT.

Ithaca, N. Y., May 10.—The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and the Master Builders, of this city, have entered into an agreement which will remain in force until May 1, 1914. It is the first time in the history of the local labor unions that articles of agreement have been drawn up by the employers and employes to govern for a definite period of time the business relations of the contractors and the workmen. The articles were drawn up at a meeting held by the committee on arbitration, which amicably settled the wage question. The agreement carries with it an increase of 3 cents per hour, the union shop, and also provides that a committee of the contractors and a committee from the union are to hereafter meet the first of each year to discuss the wage scale and working conditions for the coming year. The execution of this agreement is of much interest, owing to its being, as above stated, the first application of collective bargaining by the Carpenters, in this city.

PASS OPPOSED BILL.

Albany, N. Y., May 10.—The organized labor forces of this State worked unremittingly to secure the passage of the Murtaugh-Jackson compensation bill and was successful in securing its passage through the House of Representatives. The Senate, on the other hand, passed the Foley bill, which allows employers to take out insurance with casualty companies, and its rates of compensation are not so high as the rates of the Murtaugh-Jackson bill. The Foley bill was backed by a powerful lobby, maintained by the casualty companies. In the closing hours of the State Legislaure, however, the House of Representatives passed the Foley workmen's compensation bill, thus concurring in the action of the Senate. Thus the Foley bill, opposed by organized labor, goes to Gov. Sulzer for his approval or disapproval. The Governor has expressed his preference for the Murtaugh-Jackson bill, and at this time it is doubtful whether he will sign the bill passed by the Legislature.

PROTEST WASHED MONEY.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Martine of New Jersey recently told the Senate that a bank president in Tennessee had written him declaring that the "man should be tarred and feathered who put pantaloons on the American eagle adorning our currency." Senator Gallinger of New Hampshire suggested that the Treasury's money laundrying process might wash the pants off. Senator Martine was seeking to have printed as a public document letters which had been received from 587 bank presidents and cashiers throughout the country, protesting against washed money and proclaiming it as "the counterfeiters' delight." Senator Martine did not secure permission to have these letters made into a public document, being opposed by Senator Smoot. The Plate Printers' Union of this city has renewed its campaign to stop the use of washing machines in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The fight has been given considerable impetus by the attack on the process made in the Senate by Senator Martine.

AN EIGHT-HOUR DECISION.

Washington, May 10.—A Louisiana statute passed in 1912 provided that no factory, manufacturing establishment, office building, warehouse, workshop, or any business establishment keeping open or running day and night should permit, except in case of emergency, or compel the stationary firemen therein employed to work consecutively in any one day more than eight hours, and that a full day's labor should consist of eight hours and no more; provided that the provisions of the act should not apply to stationary firemen or assistants employed in the petroleum industry, or in any cotton gin, or any sugar plantation, or in the sawmill industry. The Supreme Court of Louisiana held, in the case of the State of Louisiana vs. Barba, that the statute was repugnant to the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, in that it denied the liberty of contract in relation to labor and the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by said amendment, as construed by the Supreme Court of the United States. The court further held that the express exemption in the act of steam plants, such as oil refineries and sawmills, worked an unjust discrimination against other plants operated by steam, and that the division of such plants into two classes, the one running day and night, and the other running day or night, was purely arbitrary, and furnished no reasonable basis for discriminating against the former in the matter of hours of labor.

MOTHERS' PENSION APPROVED.

Harrisburg, Pa., May 10.—Gov. Tener has approved the act recently passed by the Legislature providing for county systems of pensions for mothers under the administration of a commission of from five to seven women to be named by the Governor for each county availing itself of the provisions of the law. The commissioners are to investigate all cases and may recommend payments to any abandoned mother or widow who is unable to maintain her children at home. Payments are to be made monthly and the combined maximum payment shall not exceed $12 a month for one child, $20 a month for two children, $25 a month for three children and $5 a month for each additional child. For the purposes of the new law an appropriation of $200,000 has been made. With the addition of Pennsylvania the mothers' pension system has been established in four States.

LEAVEN OF SHORTER HOURS

Newport News Shipbuilding Company Reduces Working Time.

EVIDENCE OF UNION INFLUENCE

Eight Hours on Government Work Effects an Extension to Other Departments.

Newport News, Va., May 10.—On the last pay day at the Newport News Ship Building and Dry Dock Company a notice was placed in the pay envelope of each workman, which, in part, says: "After careful consideration the company has voluntarily decided to reduce the working hours of the yard, until further notice, to a nine hour basis, Saturday afternoons off, making a week of 50 working hours. This applies to workmen except those engaged exclusively on eight-hour contracts. The hourly rate will be increased on April 30 so that men working 50 hours per week will receive the same average weekly pay as they do now." The influences of the organized labor movement are not all credited to it, but this is one instance where organized labor has surely made itself felt. The eight hour day is the normal work day, and year by year large concerns employing many workmen are realizing that the shorter workday must eventually come and are meeting this sentiment by granting to their employes the reasonable workday. The eight-hour law that applies to government work, which was strengthened during the last session of Congress, is undoubtedly responsible for the announcement made by this company, as this concern has the contract to build the battleship Pennsylvania.

OFFER COMPROMISE.

Kansas City, Mo., May 10.—The Master Painters' Association has made an offer of 55 cents per hour to the painters who are on strike, but it has been declined. The men are on strike for a rate of 60 cents per hour, and consider that under the present condition of living this is a fair rate. The Master Painters' Association has been broken into by some of the master painters signing the new agreement, and it is believed that there are several others who are about to sign the new agreement. For this reason it is considered that the strike will be won in the very near future.

TEAMSTERS GROWING.

Cleveland, May 10.—Another large increase in membership of the Teamsters' Union was recently had when 300 joined the organization. There are now over 1,100 teamsters in the organization, and it is growing by leaps and bounds.

UNITY OF PURPOSE COUNTS

A. F. of L. Decision Redounds to Benefit of Pipe Trades.

GROWTH AFTER AMALGAMATION

Steamfitters and Plumbers Settle Differences and Greatly Improve Conditions.

Worcester, Mass., May 10.—The following is taken from the Labor News, published in this city: "Until a few months ago the steamfitters of Worcester were practically unorganized. The trouble experienced for several months because of the failure of those who belonged to the I. A. to amalgamate with the local recognized by the A. F. of L. kept the craft at a standstill. Both unions had a fairly good number of members, but even together they controlled only a small portion of the men working in the craft. Immediately after amalgamation, however, a change took place. Taking advantage of the special dispensation from the United Association, whereby the initiation fee was greatly reduced for a specified time, the membership went to work with a will, and from a membership of about thirty it has grown until it now totals 125. Not in many years have the steamfitters in Worcester been in such excellent shape as at present. The members are employed in every big shop in the city, and much interest is being manifested by the membership at every meeting, and the attendance is exceptionally good. The amalgamation of these two unions has had a splendid effect, and has worked great good also among the other crafts."

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION.

Washington, May 10.—As recounted in the Weekly News Letter of a previous issue, when the Boston telephone operators were on the verge of striking, the management of the local telephone company induced a number of girls to proceed to Boston to act as strike breakers in the event of an open rupture. Washington, however, was not the only place from which telephone operators were drafted, numerous other cities furnishing a quota. This fact has been brought to the attention of the Department of Labor and in reply to an interrogatory Secretary Wilson said: "Whenever the Department of Labor has the means at its command it will make an investigation to determine whether or not the reports are true relative to taking girls from various cities for the purpose of acting in the capacity of strike breakers. When young girls are taken from their homes to distant cities without adequate protection and only for the purpose of making profit upon their services, it is a matter that should be given full consideration and publicity. It is one of the functions of this department to thoroughly familiarize the public with the conditions of labor and recommend such legislation as would correct any iniquitous system where the health and morals of wage earners are involved."

PLANNING LABOR TEMPLE.

Sioux City, Iowa, May 10.—The Sioux City Trades and Labor Assembly has taken definite steps looking to the construction of a labor temple to be erected for the use of the labor unions in this city. Action on the project was taken at a recent meeting of the assembly, when a committee was appointed to bring the matter to the attention of the individual unions with a view to devising ways and means to carry out the project. The action of the Trades and Labor Assembly was prompted from the fact that many other cities are either making arrangements or actively engaged in the construction of labor temples, and it is believed that sufficient funds can be procured during the coming year to erect a suitable building for the uses of the unions.

CIGARS MADE IN PHILIPPINES.

Washington, May 10.—The first annual report of the Department of Commerce and Labor, page 152, gives the average daily wages of the cigarmakers in the provinces of the Philippines as follows: Occidental negros, .17 pesos or 8 1-2 cents; Cebu, .78 pesos or 39 cents; Cayagan, 1.47 pesos or 73 1-2 cents. The average number of hours of work reported range from ten to twelve per day. For the first eight months of the fiscal year there were received from the Philippine Islands 65,000,000 cigars. One-half of the cigar factories in Manila are owned by Chinese coolies.

KEYMEN FAVOR STRIKE.

Youngstown, Ohio, May 10.—The telegraphers on the Meadville and Mahoney divisions of the Erie Railroad are practically unanimous in favor of a strike if their demands are not met by the company. There are between 1,200 and 1,300 men concerned in the strike movement and so far every vote cast has been favorable. The keymen are asking for a 12 per cent increase in wages and other concessions in working conditions. Meetings are being held at the various stations along the line, the station agents, telegraphers, telephone operators, signal men, and lever men generally attending.

OHIO BUREAU OF LABOR.

Columbus, May 10.—A bulletin has just been issued by the Bureau of Labor statistics for the quarter ended March 31. Among the statistics included in the report is the demand for male help in the five employment offices which aggregated 6,261, a decrease of 3,560 from the previous quarter and an increase of 1,762 as compared with the corresponding quarter of the preceding year. Positions were secured as follows: Cincinnati, 2,720; Cleveland, 1,783; Columbus, 2,125; Dayton, 2,366; Toledo, 1,630. The grand total of positions secured was 10,644, a decrease of 3,889 from the previous quarter and an increase of 1,840 as compared with the corresponding quarter of the preceding year. The total number of calls for female help was 4,721. The demand for laundry and day workers totaled 3,498; domestics, 640; culinary service, hotel and restaurant, 463; factory work, 85; store service, 6; clerical and stenographic, 23; and professional, 6. Of the total number of registered female applicants for work, laundry and day workers, totaled 3,326; domestics, 443; culinary service, hotel and restaurant, 441; factory work, 93; store service, 8; clerical and stenographic, 25, and professional, 11.

NEILL CONFIRMED.

Washington, May 10.—The nomination of Charles P. Neill, as Commissioner of Labor to succeed himself, was confirmed by the Senate on May 1. Opposition had previously been offered by some Southern Senators, based upon the alleged inaccuracies of a report on women and child labor in the South, published by the Labor Bureau. The report of the conditions made public by the Labor Bureau, however, have never been proved inaccurate. At the time the report was made public an attempt was made to authorize another investigation along the same lines, but failed. The nomination was formerly made by President Taft, and no action was taken in the Senate to confirm Mr. Neill prior to the adjournment of the Sixty-second Congress. Shortly after the new administration was inducted into office President Wilson renominated Mr. Neill. The nomination was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor in the Senate and that committee reported favorably to the Senate and the action indicated above was taken.

TROLLEYMEN GET ADVANCES

Activity of Amalgamated Association Shown in Increases.

EXTENDS OVER BIG TERRITORY

New Divisions Chartered and Betterments Secured Daily History of Organizaton.

Detroit, Mich., May 10.—R. L. Reeves, an executive officer of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes, gives the following list of activities of local unions reported to the general office: Division No. 382, located at Salt Lake City, recently secured a 2-cent per hour increase. The aggregate annual increase will exceed $50,000, and 600 members will participate. Divisions Nos. 114 and 272, of Youngstown, Ohio, have secured a new agreement that advances their wage scale 2 cents per hour, with 200 members to share in the increase. Division No. 89, of New Castle, Pa., comprising more than 100 members, has just negotiated an agreement by which a wage increase of 2 cents per hour was secured. Division No. 176, at Sharon, Pa., also has secured a new agreement and a new wage rate which is an advance of 2 cents per hour over the old one. Division No. 379, of Niles, Ohio, also has obtained a wage increase of 2 cents per hour. During the month of April local divisions were chartered by the Amalgamated Association at Jamestown, Fredonia, and Buffalo, N. Y.

LABOR DEPARTMENT NEWS.

Washington, May 10.—Robert Watson, of Lowell, Mass., who has been employed in the Department of Commerce and Labor for several years, has been made chief clerk in the new Department of Labor. George C. Box, Buffalo, N. Y., has been appointed disbursing clerk. Samuel Gompers, Jr., has received the appointment of chief of the Bureau of Publication. The appointments mentioned come under the operation of the civil service, and the appointments are merely a matter of selection from the civil service list. In addition to this, however, Hugh L. Kerwin, Wellsboro, Pa., has been appointed by Secretary Wilson as his private secretary. Mr. Kerwin acted in this same capacity for Mr. Wilson while he was Congressman from the Fifteenth District of Pennsylvania.

COAL MINERS STRIKE.

Cardiff, Wales, May 10.—Twenty thousand coal miners in Southern Wales are on strike against the open-shop policy.

CARPENTERS ON THE BOOM

Advances in Wages and Betterments Being Secured.

LARGE LIST CHARTERS ISSUED

Amicable Adjustments Reached in Many Places, While Strikes Also Win.

Indianapolis, May 10.—General Secretary Frank Duffy reports the following successful trade movements, the news of which have been transmitted to the general headquarters. Cadillac, Mich., increase in wages from 35 cents to 40 cents per hour. Reading, Pa., increase in wages from 35 cents to 40 cents an hour, and reduction in hours from nine to eight per day. Warren, Pa., eight hour day established on May 1. Newport, R. I., after a strike lasting two or three weeks an increase in wages has been secured from $3.76 to $4 per day, with a three-year agreement. Included in the agreement is a further increase of 2 cents per hour after next year, and an additional 2 cents the year following. Binghamton, N. Y., secured an increase in wages from 37½ cents to 40 cents per hour, with the understanding that another increase will be granted next year. The United Brotherhood of Carpenters is having an organization boom, the following local unions having been chartered during the month of April: Caney, Kans.; Los Angeles, Cal.; Erie, Pa.; Brenham, Texas; Petersburg, Ill.; New Rochelle, N. Y.; Jackson, Miss.; Falmouth, Mass.; Memphis, Tenn.; Provo, Utah; Caldwell, Texas; Valdosta, Ga.; Liverpool, N. Y.; Chippewa Falls, Wis.; Tomap, Wis.; Rusk, Texas; Richmond, Va.; Utica, N. Y.; Riviera, Texas; Dunkirk, N. Y.; Moncton, N. B., Can; Bonham, Texas; Chatham, Ont., Can.; Columbus, Ga.; North Battleford, Sask., Can.; Goreville, Ill.; Mobile, Ala.; Cambridge, Md.; Oneida, N. Y.; Sarnia, Ont., Canada; Minneapolis, Minn.

FOREIGNERS JOINING UNION.

Elvins, Mo., May 10.—The Union Journal, an organ of the miners, in a recent issue says: "The foreigners, like the Americans, are flocking to the standard of the Western Federation of Miners and demanding action. They do not realize just how the organization in this district failed in its demands last time, but they do realize that something went radically wrong and they want to remedy it. Two interesting meetings of foreigners have been held within the past two weeks, one at Flat River and the other at Leadwood. A large number of new members were initiated at each meeting, as well as many becoming reinstated. Large crowds were present at both meetings, and enthusiasm and determination were very much in evidence."

TROLLEYMEN VICTORIOUS.

Asheville, N. C., May 10.—The strike of the motormen and conductors on the traction lines in this city has been brought to a close by an amicable settlement. The men have been conceded a raise as follows: The former rate for the first year was 18 cents per hour, and under the new agreement it will be hereafter 20 cents per hour. Former rate for second year was was 19 cents, now 21 cents. For the third year the old rate was 20 cents, now 22 cents. For the fourth year and thereafter the old rate was 21½ cents, and will now be 25 cents. This is considered to be a magnificent victory for the men involved in the contest.

IN AID OF CLERKS.

Washington, May 10.—It is the general impression that the government clerks can look forward to legislation affecting their interests at the regular session of Congress next winter. Cabinet members who have consulted with the President have been informed that they will be required to prepare and present plans for the bettering of conditions of the thousands who labor in the respective departments. Among the matters to be considered will be a retirement fund, old age pension, and the general welfare of those who have given the best years of their lives to the government service.

BALTIMORE'S GOOD WORK.

Baltimore, May 10.—The Trade Unionist of this city says: "For the first time in the history of the labor movement in this State trade unionism has invaded the precincts of the Eastern Shore. President Ferguson of the State Federation and James J. Sullivan, of the Baltimore Building Trades Department, recently organized two local unions and paved the way for the future organization of at least four more organizations in Cambridge. Inspired by their success, Easton and Salisbury will be visited for organizing purposes."

TILE ROOFERS' NEW SCALE.

Cleveland, May 10.—The new scale of [illegible] cents an hour for the Slate and Tile Roofers has gone into effect, and all workmen in this branch are employed.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1913.

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Legislation humanitarian in character cannot but materially benefit the wage-earners, but the organized workers cannot afford to put all their industrial eggs into one partisan political basket.

With the increasing scope of influence of the American Federation of Labor, with its past history of achievements, its present virility and ever-increasing accomplishments, compels it to meet obstacles by the legion. Political panorama painters, academic philosophers, industrial alchemists, teeterboard logicians, high-brow doctrinaires, pessimists—all are competent (?) to furnish blue-prints on short notice, minutely depicting the route to be taken to lead the wage-earners out of the industrial wilderness. Notwithstanding, the Federation is still the greatest and most effective combination of workers the history of the world has ever recorded.

The organizing campaign of the American Federation of Labor continues vigorously. The issue of the News Letter of May 3, containing literature in eighteen different languages, has already gone through two editions, with a total of 150,000 copies. Another edition will be necessary. Steadily the wage-earners of the country are enlisting in the organized labor movement. Officials of the unions, craft organizers, A. F. of L. volunteer organizers, State Federations, City Central Bodies; in fact, every component part of the American Federation of Labor has given loyal and effective support. This unity of thought and action is reflected in the recent tremendous growth of Labor's Federation.

UNITED STATES SENATORS NOW AMENABLE

The State Legislatures of the various States will hereafter be deprived of electing United States Senators. The constitutional amendment requiring that United States Senators be elected by a direct vote of the people is now a part of the Federal Constitution.

The fact that this reform has been consummated has already had its effect upon the rules of parliamentary procedure in the Senate. For years there has been an intense feeling upon the part of a large majority of the people that the United States Senate was not only a check upon the popular branch of Congress, but also inordinately unresponsive to the public will. Representatives newly elected from among the people when great changes in public thought were occurring responded with celerity, but the ponderous machinery of the branch elected by the State Legislatures lumbered along in a comfortable and easy, unheeding fashion.

True it is there have been and are many United States Senators who endeavored to reinvest that body with the spirit of sympathy and activity to meet the ever-changing conditions. The Legislatures, the barrier between the people and Senators, were, until the recent revulsion of public sentiment, as equally unresponsive as those upon whom Senatorial honors were conferred. Since action by the Senate itself could not be secured, the preferential primary performed the service of giving the people an opportunity of expressing their choice as to who should represent them in the north end of the Capitol, although the Legislatures legally held the power to disregard the preferential primary.

Legislative assemblies, however, sensed the increasing directive power of the people, who demanded that still greater scope be given them in formulating legislation, and that aspirants for all public offices be selected by a direct expression of the voters. Sentiment so veered and crystallized that finally the staid and conservative Senate, fully conscious of the fate that would be meted out to those who longer temporized, submitted a constitutional amendment for popular election of United States Senators.

That public sentiment had been correctly interpreted was clearly shown by the celerity with which the State Legislatures cast their affirmative votes for this amendment. This great and beneficial change is now a reality.

The Representatives in Congress have been and are amenable to the will of the people. When in the past labor suffered grievous wrongs and the national legislative body was called upon to right them, apathy and negligence were conspicuous. Unable to obtain redress, labor called upon the people to send men to the House of Representatives and the Senate that would listen to its grievances and promote remedial legislation. Labor made it plain that it proposed to exercise its influence in favor of those candidates who were its friends and vigorously oppose those who were its enemies.

No one will deny that its efforts were effective in defeating reactionaries and representatives of private interests in the House, for it could and did reach the people. The Senatorial problem, however, with its almost impenetrable barrier, was not so easily solved.

Hereafter both branches of Congress will be elected by a direct vote of the people. Candidates for the United States Senate will be compelled to undergo the scrutiny of the people, the Legislatures, a most convenient "fence" in the past in which to conceal their political misdeeds, having been shorn of its power.

United States Senators are now amenable to the people's will.

"JUDICIAL PERSECUTION"

The District of Columbia courts, before which President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell, and Secretary Morrison have had to appear in defense of an alleged contempt, are the subject of some severe criticism by the press. The judicial warfare opened in 1907, and while the original controversy out of which grew the contempt proceedings has long since been amicably adjusted, has continued with intermittent lapses between appeals until now. The New York World, in editorially commenting on the recent Court of Appeals decision, affirming the verdict of the lower court, gives vent to expressions that can be classified as a stinging criticism. The caption of the editorial is "Judicial Last-Ditchers," and follows:

"As time passes, the contempt proceedings against Samuel Gompers and others growing out of the boycott of the Bucks Stove and Range Company five years ago take on the appearance of judicial persecution.

"In December, 1908, Gompers and his associates were summarily adjudged guilty of contempt and sentenced to imprisonment by the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. The decree as entered by Justice Daniel Thew Wright carried anger and resentment in every line of it. On appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States the judgment was reversed in May, 1911, by a unanimous decision, on the ground that if there was cause for action at all it should have been by civil and not criminal proceedings.

"Without heeding this rebuke, the District court, in June, 1912, again arraigned the defendants and again found them guilty, imposing jail sentences. This verdict is now affirmed by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia, which reduces Gompers' penalty to imprisonment for thirty days and imposes fines only in the cases of his associates. Thus, while punishments are lightened, they are nevertheless inflicted upon the old theory of criminality which the highest court in the land has disavowed and repudiated.

"It is not possible to indorse the acts and words of Gompers, Mitchell, and Morrison in this controversy, but the courts of the District of Columbia are even more in error. They are not dealing appropriately with citizens who are in the wrong. They are carrying on a personal feud which has already received a most impressive rebuke. They are judicial last-ditchers, who are introducing reprisal into what they call the administration of justice."

The New York Times, which can usually be depended upon to knock the knuckles of labor whenever opportunity affords, while taking its accustomed position relative to the Federation officials, delivers a cleverly worded rebuke to the court. The importance of the criticism is its source. That part of the editorial dealing wholly with the court is as follows:

"An appeal will be taken, and there is an opportunity for both Mr. Gompers and the entire community to reconsider their positions soberly. To speak candidly, there is danger that the courts will be used for private purposes, as the Legislatures have been, unless a halt shall be called. The Supreme Court annulled the first sentences for contempt in this case because the process for contempt was used as a means of punishment in a private proceeding. The main offense was conspiracy in constraint of trade, but judgment was given for contempt of court on motion of private counsel. That was not action by the court for the protection of its dignity in the interest of the public rather than of itself. When this error was corrected another mistake was made. The court referred inquiry regarding its dignity to private counsel, and the sentence is now so far reduced that the court practically is rebuked again. It is by no means sure that an appeal may not again be successful. In that case, and even if the reduction of the sentence shall prevent another remand for retrial, the efficiency of the lower courts in protecting their dignity leaves something to be desired in the interest of both the court and the public."

STILL WITH THE DEPARTMENT

Joseph Stewart, Second Assistant Postmaster General under the Taft administration, still retains the same position under the present Postmaster General. Gen. Stewart, as he is called, represents that small portion of society which believes that those who work for wages constitute a dangerous element when intrusted with the right to associate themselves together for their common protection.

To obain a correct measure of his breadth of view, it is only necessary to refer to the testimony he gave at the hearings before the Committee on Reform in the Civil Service of the House of Representativs in May, 1911. Gen. Stewart is very much opposed to the American Federation of Labor, and in that particular respect there is a strong mutuality.

In answer to a question of the chairman of the Committee on Civil Service Reform, inquiring as to the right of the railway mail clerks to organize, Gen. Stewart replied:

"They have, and it has never been denied. They have two creditable organizations—one, including a membership of 13,000 out of 17,000 employes. It is not an organization that the Postoffice Department objects to. We have encouraged it, and, personally, I have attended, upon invitation, its last two annual conventions and addressed them. It is not to organization, but to the character of organization, to which we object; and that is what I am here today, so far as the Postoffice Department is concerned, to speak upon particularly."

Mr. Kent—By "character" you mean the right to strike and the right to petition?

Mr. Stewart—The right to strike and the assumed right to organize an association which limits its membership to only a few of the employes, which excludes the officers and the supervisory force of the service, which holds its meetings behind closed doors, which has its secret password, and which does not permit the officers of the department to know what its deliberations or purposes are.

This view of the general places him in the front rank as a champion of the "gag" order which deprived the employes in the Postoffice Department of their citizenship rights, and which has been repealed by Congress. The objection to organization among the employes, save where the officials of the department were permitted to control and use it for their own purposes, together with the gag order in force, could only be classified as an admiration society, spineless and useless.

The executive orders of ex-President Roosevelt and ex-President Taft have been repealed by an act of Congress. The executive orders were suggested and urged by the Postoffice Department officials at the time they were promulgated, and not upon the sole initiative of the two ex-Chief Executives named, although they must also assume their full responsibility.

Gen. Stewart was a party to and vigorously enforced the "gag" orders, and yet, even though his conception of authority over the employes in the Postal Service has been repudiated by Congress, he still retains his position as Second Assistant.

Political parties are driven from power because of the governmental policies they espouse and execute. The recent Presidential election witnessed the chastisement of a political party long in power. The people decreed that changes in government were necessary, and in connection with this decree it is hardly to be expected that men will immediately renounce the course they have for years followed. The destroyer of political liberty under a Republican administration cannot become the champion of political liberty under a Democratic administration.

MASTERS AND SLAVES

BY SCOTT NEARING

Was Industry made for Man or was Man made for Industry?

If Man was made for Industry, then it is just that Industry should be the Master and Man the slave. It is just that five hundred thousand men and women should be killed and injured annually while they minister to the industrial deity; it is fair that women toil long hours for a pittance; it is right that humanity writhe in agony under the goad of the industrial taskmaster.

If, on the other hand, Industry was made for Man, then it is just that Man should be the Master and Industry the Slave. It is fair that any calling which crushes men's bodies, destroys the souls of women and little children, or takes a toll of life and joy greater than its contribution to the happiness of the community, should be reformed or abolished.

Two thousand years ago Jesus rebuked the Pharisees and justified His disciples—who had picked corn on the Sabbath day—in these words: "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath." The world listens for the modern prophet who shall proclaim: "Industry was made for Man, and not Man for Industry."

—From Everybody's Magazine.

TRYING OUT SAFETY DEVICES

Washington, May 10.—Since the announcement by the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company of its intention to try out two of the many automatic stopping devices submitted in the competition for the $10,000 prize offered by President Mellen there has been considerable interest manifested in the mechanical principles involved in these devices. The company has therefore decided to furnish additional information regarding the devices to be tested.

The devices to be tried out do not comply with all the requirements called for by the companies, but both are said to possess considerable merit. They are similar in so far that they are both intermittent contact devices, and the most promising feature of each is that the apparatus is tested each time the train passes over it.

The speed control feature of one of these devices is particularly promising, as it is possible to vary the speed control, according to physical conditions and speed desired, so that at one point if the enginemen should exceed a speed of twenty-five miles an hour while passing a stop or slow down signal the train would be stopped; while at another point, if he should exceed a speed of fifteen miles an hour under the same conditions, the train would likewise be stopped. It is possible to install this stopping-device so that a distinct warning may be given by audible and visual signals without stopping the train, and if these signals are not heeded by the engineman the brakes will be applied in sufficient time to stop the train before reaching the point of danger.

The other device is similar in many respects to a number that were submitted in the contest, but it contains certain features that the others lack. The winning feature is that there is no electrical apparatus on the locomotive, and therefore the device may be inspected by enginemen who are familiar with air-brake apparatus and valves. The ground apparatus is so similar to existing signal systems that a competent signalman would find no difficulty in maintaining it. Should any moving part, either on the ground or on the locomotive, become demaged or broken, it would give a stop indication to the train.

Both systems can be installed so that they will not interfere with the third rail or overhead wires on railroads that are operated by either method. They will not interfere with the present equipment or existing physical conditions of the right of way. Snow, ice, and freezing weather will have no effect on them. The brake application will be so gradual that there will be no tendency to injure passengers or damage equipment in case brakes should be applied. They may both be installed regardless of whether they be connected with a signal system or not. This would apply in case a railroad desired a train to slow down at certain places, such as sharp turns or at points where slow speed is required.

They may also be installed and connected with any known signal system, and will compel the engineman to slow down to the proper speed where it is desired to pass a train over a crossover in the direction of traffic from one running track to another.

The fact that the New Haven Railroad is about to experiment with these devices is not intended to convey the impression that either one of them will be the final choice of the company. The contest is open until July 1, and there may be submitted before that time devices of much more merit than those already presented.

MUSEFUL COAL MINER.

There are few, indeed, who are aware that William B. Wilson, Secretary of the Department of Labor, ever set his meditations to metre. While claiming no distinction on this score, he published, in 1903, a small brochure containing a number of poems he had written at various times, entitled "Memories." The dedication runs thus:

"To my father and mother, whose hopes that their son might follow a literary career have not been realized, this little book is affectionatly inscribed as a partial compensation for their disappointment."

The first poem is not distinguished by a name, but has the simple word, "Introduction," as its title. This poem is apropos at this time, as it fits with nicety the present, and is indicative of the character of the Secretary of Labor, and is as follows:

No great, refined, poetic powers I claim;
  No college learning smoothes my humble muse;
Unknown to fortune, hidden far from fame,
  I simply sing, because to sing I choose.
Nor shall I sing of lords or ladies fair,
  Of kings or queens vain-glorious in might,
Of priests or parsons bowed in holy prayer
  Imploring grace to guide their flocks aright.
Of chivalry, or gallant knights of old,
  Who gloried in their prowess with the lance;
Who fought for ladies bright, for kings and gold,
  For transient fame and pleasure, too, perchance.
But, as I tune my rude, uncultured lyre
  I'll sing the praises of the multitude
Whose toiling brawn and brain and heart's desire
  Moves ever for their fellow beings' good.

When England's mighty nobles gathered round
  The sturdy oak on Island Runnymede,
All by a promise to each other bound
  To give the future freedom's title deed
Signed by King John, and ratified by those
  Whose genius grasped the coming of the hour
To organize the forces, to oppose
  A tyrant monarch's autocratic power,
A strike was threatened. On issue hung
  "Liberty or death," freedom or servile strife
To all the race that speak the English tongue
  And value liberty more dear than life.
When Freedom's goddess, sweet enchanting maid
  Had fled Columbia's ever beauteous shore,
When low, the hand of Justice had been laid
  And brave men fought with desperation, more
To 'fend their homes from arbitrary wrong
  Than to resist the payment of the cash
Which Britain sought, because her arm was strong,
  To have, or force collection with the lash.
When through the time that tried men's souls
  The patriot fathers stood, unconquered still,
Trusting to Him whose destiny controls,
  To add a Yorktown to their Bunker Hill.
'Twas but a strike, born of a Union, made
  By separate States, each of itself too frail
To thwart the wrongs imposed. But with the aid
  Each gave the other, wrong could not prevail.
But strikes like these are far beyond my muse.
  I leave them for a greater Minstrel's themes,
While I, a lowly, humble strain may choose
  And sing a toiler's hopes, his waking dreams
Of coming power used for the common weal,
  Where all alike in God's eternal plan,
Sharing the burdens and the profits, feel
  The spirit of the brotherhood of man.

But as I tune my rude, uncultured lyre,
  I'll sing the praises of the multitude,
Whose toiling brawn and brain and heart's desire
  Moves ever for their fellow beings' good.

BOOKS

"The Immigrant Invasion," by Frank Julian Warne, author of "The Slav Invasion and the Mine Workers," "The Coal Mine Workers," and other publications. Dodd, Mead and Company, New York.

This publication has just been issued and is replete with historical data, gathered from every source where information was obtainable. To those who are interested in the immigration question, and all should be, the book is an invaluable addition to the general literature upon this subject. It is known that transportation companies are deeply interested in securing contracts to transport the peoples of foreign countries to our shores, and on this phase of the question one paragraph is interesting. "The steamship companies, by steady growth, have developed their facilities so as to take care of a large volume, and it is greatly to their business interests to see that this volume is at all times as near its maximum as they can make it. The mere transportation of the immigrants in itself means a business of about $75,000,000 a year." Throughout the entire volume comparisons are made on the conditions of the immigrants and the effect which the dumping of thousands of aliens into America's industrial caudron has upon the standard of living in this country. One chapter is devoted to the labor union, and its text follows closely the opinions held by the students of the organized labor movement. Only one criticism can be offered, which perhaps may not be amiss, and that is its terminology in at least one respect. The author designates "labor" as a "commodity," which places it in the same category as a leg of mutton or a load of bricks. Labor power is life, and therefore undergoing constant changes. Labor power reaches its maximum with health, decreases with sickness, and ceases at death. However, the publication is a valuable addition to the literature upon this subject.

"The Wage Earner and His Problems," by John Mitchell, copyrighted and published by P. S. Ridsdale, 1306 Kenyon Street N. W., Washington, D. C. A special autograph edition is being printed, price $1 per copy, and can be procured from the publisher.

President Gompers penned the foreward in this publication and a portion of it indicates his opinion of the value of the matter contained therein. "Centuries ago it was written 'of making many books there is no end.' Today as then there are books written by the vain and the foolish, by those of little understanding. These last but a brief while and then vanish into the void of time. There are others written by men who told of things which were lasting and fundamental, and who dealt with bedrock truths and the eternal verities. These were men who had been fired by life's dreams and purposes, whose suffering and experiences made them more keenly sensitive to the passions of humanity. They were seers who could interpret life, who could enrich others by the wealth of their experience and enter into every mind and life, and inspire by their coming. Through their books we are granted the privilege of communion with these leaders of all ages, of sensing their personalities and understanding their characters, of grasping the meaning and import of that imperishable personality which is gathered from the forces of all the ages that have gone before, and shall live in all the ages that are to come. These are the books that shall live and never die, they deal with human life, its depths and its shallows. Those which tell of life, human efforts and aspirations are what may with profit constitute the reading matter of all our people that they may understand and appreciate the world in which they live and the lives of all among whom they dwell, that the common life may be uplifted to a thing of joy and unlimited development. When we see in the common life the joy and the purpose of living, when all can find there the opportunity for the realization of the best and the greatest in each individual, there will come into the life of the whole nation an understanding that will bless and glorify the work that is done by each and all. A book that interprets the motives and the purpose of a movement that meets a vital human need, that in familiar terms tells the ignorant, the heedless and the unlettered, why that movement is what it is, is a book that will do a part in creating and fashioning the forces of national thought and action. Of such a character is this book by John Mitchell."

"Studies in Trade Unionism in the Custom Tailoring Trade and History of the Journeymen Tailors' Union of America," by Charles J. Stowell.

These studies have been compiled under the direction of the economics department of the University of Illinois, with the co-operation and assistance of the Journeymen Tailors' Union of America. They are based upon authentic records, some of which cannot be duplicated, and contain facts that every tailor should know about his union and his trade. A portion of the work is devoted to the rise and growth of the tailoring industry in England and America, and to the beginning of organized movements among the tailors. Other portions of the book deal with present conditions in the trade, and contain a detailed statistical account of the present Journeymen Tailors' Union from its foundation to the present. Statistics are presented on the subject of membership and growth, strikes and lockouts, wages and policies. The general executive board of the Journeymen Tailors' Union is making an endeavor to place the book in the hands of each member of the union. The price of the book is $1, postpaid, and can be procured from General Secretary E. J. Brais, box 597, Bloomington, Ill.

"A Personal Narrative of Political Experiences," by Senator Robert M. La Follette. Robert M. La Follette Publishing Company, Madison, Wis.

This book has just been put upon the market and is an autobiography of the famous Senator. It is written in an entertaining narrative style, the many human interest incidents giving it a shade or color different from any publication of a like sort issued for many a year. It really is the story of a man who, having a knowledge of the human equation, and being opposed to the political dictatorship of men who pursue politics as a mercenary occupation, has sufficient strength of character to impress the voters with his integrity and ideals. Senator La Follette, from his first entrance into the political arena, has been compelled to battle against the votaries of venal politics. In view of this, the story of his steady advancement from prosecuting attorney of a small county in Wisconsin to the United States Senate partakes in some measure of a romance. As one of the leading public men of our day, he takes high rank. The perusal of his own story is an inspiration to those who are interested in the general welfare of mankind.

FOR A PRACTICAL TEST.

New York, May 10.—A venture has been launched by several New Yorkers with a view of making a practical test of the minimum wage problem. It is stated that it is the plan of those interested to establish a string of candy exchanges and lunchrooms in which the women employees are to receive a minimum wage of $12 a week. Two of these places are to be in Harlem and one in the Bronx, as well as one store in the center of the city. There is an effort to be made to realize a fair profit on the business and to put the minimum and living wage theory to a practical test.

WILL VOTE ON AFFILIATION

Bricklayers to Soon Decide by Referendum.

URGE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Fear Further Encroachment on Jurisdiction by Changing Conditions.

Washington, May 10.—The Bricklayers' and Masons' International Union will soon submit to its membership the matter of affiliation with the American Federation of Labor. The last issue of the official journal of the International Union contains the following, it being the leading article:

"The question of affiliation with the American Federation of Labor, as ordered by the St. Joe convention, will within the next two months be submitted to subordinate unions for another vote. The question is of serious moment to our International Union. A thousand times more so than when submitted at various times in the past. During the past ten years there have been many changes in building construction, until today we are beset on all sides with questions of jurisdiction over certain work. These claims come both from the newer and the older organizations chartered by the A. F. of L., and are a result of the changing of their classification of work, whereby they seek to grab a little more work for themselves at our expense.

"A great deal of the interference with our well-established classification is 'sic-ed on' by those whose only desire is to foment strife and trouble for us, simply because we have remained isolated from other trades. They forget that there are others interested, and that they are innocent sufferers. We refer to the employer and to the building public, and they are powerless to move or take sides in such matters. If they recognize our claims, then the threat is made that the entire building trades will be pulled off their work, and conditions are such that today in several cities there are employers involved in jurisdictional disputes affecting our interests who have always proved their friendship to us in years gone by in just such situations, they ask, 'What are we to do under such a condition?'

"In our state of isolation during the past forty years our employers have always patted our members on the back and urged them to continue it. 'Don't get mixed up with the other trades and be in trouble all the time,' they have said. Today their tune is changed, and your international officers in many of our recent jurisdictional troubles have been told that it would be better for all concerned if we were affiliated with the rest of the trades. Had we affiliated with the A. F. of L. ten or fifteen years ago our jurisdictional troubles of today would never have occurred. We should have been on the inside, and classifications of work conflicting with ours would not have been approved. As matters now stand the more the newer and older organizations can change their classification so as to 'bite off' as the saying goes 'a little more of ours,' the more delighted they appear to be.

"The question is, Where will this all end? On the one hand our contractors, always fair to us and willing to do the right thing by us, face a complete stoppage of work at the hands of the Building Trades Department of America should they accept our classification of work in preference to recognizing a claim to some particular portion of it demanded by some other labor organization.

"Our affiliation with the American Federation of Labor and Building Trades Department of America will not clear away the jurisdictional troubles that have been and are now being forced upon us by other trades who attempt to steal from us our various branches of work and incorporate same in their own classification. These we shall have to adjust ourselves. Affiliation would stop all further encroachments, however, and in the old disputes we would be enabled thereby to protect our rights more even-handed. In other words, the rest of the trades would not be pitted against us, and this would be something gained, and a very important gain in so far as the position of the involved employer is concerned.

"If affiliation is again turned down by our union, there is only one other recourse for us, and that is that the next convention empower its executive officers to form, say, with five structural trades, an offensive and defensive alliance. Which shall it be? In our opinion affiliation is the proper procedure. We belong to and should be an active part of the great American labor movement."

STATE OF EMPLOYMENT.

Boston, May 10.—The Bureau of Statistics, labor division, of Massachusetts, has just issued its twentieth quarterly report on the state of employment. For the quarter ended December 31, 1912, complete returns relative to the state of employment were received from 994 labor organizations in Massachusetts, with an aggregate membership of 174,359, or approximately 80 per cent of the entire trade union membership in the commonwealth. Of the entire membership represented by these reports, 15,914, or 9.1 per cent were reported as unemployed. This per cent is lower than the corresponding percentage reported at the close of December of each year since the collection of returns of this character was inaugurated, but as compared with the percentage for the close of the preceding quarter, September 30, 1912, it is higher by more than 4 per cent, the increase being partly due to unemployment in the building trades, owing to unfavorable weather conditions and particularly to the unemployment of a large number of garment workers on strike in the city of Boston. In the building trades, which comprise 16.7 per cent of the aggregate membership recorded, the per cent of unemployed on December 1, 1912, was 14.9 per cent, as compared with 20.9 per cent on the same date one year previous. In the boot and shoe manufacturing industry, 4.6 per cent of the organized employes were reported as unemployed, as compared with 2.3 per cent one year previous. In the textile industry 12.9 per cent of the organized employes were reported unemployed on December 31, 1912, while one year previous 7.5 per cent was the record.

REPORT ABOUT READY.

Washington, May 10.—The special investigators working under the authority of the United States Children's Bureau have nearly completed their survey of the selected industrial cities of the country with reference to the conditions affecting the health of babies. The investigators were charged to study carefully the various periods of child life, including the teething period, the school days, and the periods of adolescence. These statistics, when compiled, will be the first ever gathered by the government for the purpose of instituting measures of a preventative character. It is estimated that there are 29,500,000 children to be served under this bureau.

OPERATORS STRIKE.

San Francisco, April 26.—Following the refusal of the Marconi Wireless Company to grant their demands for an increase in wages, the wireless operators employed on the steamships of the Pacific Coast are on strike. There are 325 operators belonging to the Wireless Operators' Union on this Coast. The men demand an increase from the present wages of $75 a month to $95 and $125 for shore operators, and from $35 to $45 on ships to $50 and $60. S. J. Konenkamp, international president of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union, is in charge of the strike.

LABOR OF CHILDREN.

Washington, May 10.—One in ten of all the wage-earners employed in the manufacture of cotton is under sixteen years of age, according to the Bulletin of Manufactures, just issued by the Census Bureau. The national child labor committee points out that the textile industries are still the largest employers of children in factories, for this Bulletin based on the census of 1910 shows 40,221 employed in the manufacture of cotton goods, 11,111 in hosiery and knitting mills, 9,942 in the woolen and felt industry, and 8,143 in silk factories. The Bulletin shows also 11,035 workers under sixteen engaged in canning and preserving and 78,951 scattered among seventy-seven other manufacturing industries. The largest percentage of factory workers under sixteen are found in the South Atlantic States and Alabama; the next largest in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. It should be noted that these figures do not include the great child-employing occupations such as mercantile establishments, messenger service, home-workers, and street-trading.

MAKING PROGRESS

Pittsburg, May 10.—The following article is taken from the Pittsburg Dispatch of recent date: Days of the famous Schoenville strike of 1909 were vividly recalled to McKees Rocks residents when 4,000 people gathered on the top of the old Indian Mound, the meeting place during the strike days, and listened to the exhortations of six representatives of the American Federation of Labor. These men have been working in that vicinity for the past four weeks, making the first attempt to organize the workingmen there since the strike. They disclaimed any intention of urging a strike, but said that their sole purpose was to organize the workingmen. It had been previously announced that both the American Federation of Labor and the Industrial Workers of the World would hold rival mass meetings at the mound yesterday. This announcement drew a large number of those who were there. No meeting was held by the latter organization. The meeting was the first held on the mound since the strike. The speakers claimed that while some opposition had been met with on the part of the Pressed Steel Car Company, they hoped to include every one of the thousands of workmen in the steel company's plant in their union and they will then ask the company for recognition. John L. Lewis, general organizer for the Federation in this district, presided, and delivered the first address from a rudely constructed platform. He said that the workmen want to organize that they might sell their labor to the highest bidder in a businesslike manner and with mutual contracts between employer and employe. Mr. Lewis took a rap at the Industrial Workers of the World. Its members, he said, live on hysteria, strife, and bloodshed. About 100 applications for membership were received by Thomas Colnar, the secretary and business agent. The speakers announced that the meetings will be held weekly.

RECORD LOSS ON SEA.

New York, May 10.—The year 1913 has proved thus far the most disastrous that ship owners on both sides of the Atlantic have experienced in any three months in nearly fifty years. Correct estimates of the loss caused by storms that have swept the coasts of Europe and America cannot be obtained, but basing an estimate upon the reports of Lloyds, the damage to deep-sea vessels alone amounts to $7,000,000. This does not, of course, include the loss suffered by the coasting trade of the United States, estimated as several millions. During the month of January alone one agency reported the loss or partial wreckage of 328 sailing vessels and 510 steamships. One result of the year's storms has been the annihilation of the few wooden schooners left with the American coasting trade. The price of all ocean vessels has risen. It is stated that it costs almost twice as much to buy a ship now as it did three years ago. This increase, it is claimed, is due to the rise in the cost of ship building materials. The rise in marine insurance rates, which was started by the loss of the Titanic, has received additional impulse from the large number of recent wrecks.

GETS PUNITORY DAMAGES.

Washington, May 10.—Frank E. Johnson was awarded punitory damages of $5,000 and compensatory damages of $294 against an insurance company recently by a jury in Milwaukee. Johnson alleged that he was wrongfully discharged by the Simmons Manufacturing Company, of Kenosha, by reason of pressure brought to bear by the insurance company. He testified that some time previous to last January he lost an eye while at work, but after recovering sufficiently he returned to work and tried to get a settlement with the insurance company, which carried the workmen's compensation risk; that the company offered him $75, which he refused, and that shortly thereafter he was discharged. Other evidence was produced, on which the jury decided that the discharge was due to the demands of representatives of the insurance company on the employer. This is the first judgment of this kind in Wisconsin. It is said, however, that there was one of the same nature in Massachusetts and two in Illinois, this statement having been made by the publication called the "Western Underwriter."

THIS IS INTERESTING:

Washington, May 10.—The following item appeared recently in the Portland, Ore., Labor Press: "Portland is in the midst of a lively political campaign, and as usual the politicians are as busy as bees trying to get organized labor's vote. This time they are being placed between the devil and the deep sea, for the Typothetae, the employing printers' organization, has sent them word that if they dare to have the union label on their printing, all and each of the thirty-two members of that organization, with their families, will vote against them, while they are sure that if they do not use the label the thousands of voters in organized labor will forget them on election day. Verily, it is a hard position to put the poor politician in, and we feel that the action of the Typothetae is 'real rude.' In the meantime, the printers and allied trades are having a good laugh. The Typothetae must be hoeing a hard row."

JANUARY BUILDING OPERATIONS

Washington, May 10.—According to Bradstreet's, the building returns for January make a good showing, as compared with January of a year ago. Ninety-eight cities in the country show a total expenditure permitted for in January, this year, of $40,041,351, as against $59,499,552 in December, 1912, and $36,208,549 in January last year. This shows a decrease of 32.7 per cent over December, and a gain of 10.5 over January, 1912. There is a very general tendency toward increases, shown by various cities, as compared with January of last year. In the ninety-eight cities reported, seventy-five, or just about three-quarters, show gains over January a year ago. The gains here shown, coupled with the fact that January this year was an exceptionally mild period, point to the building trades having been fairly well employed, and this view is strengthened by the reports received of active demands for builders' material.

URGES LONGER SCHOOL YEAR

Nine Months Suggested for Rural Communities.

FOUR MONTHS IN SOME STATES

Desires Minimum Qualifications for Teachers Materially Raised.

Washington, May 10.—Dr. P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, in a letter to the superintendents of public instruction in the various States, directs attention to the present short rural term and makes an earnest plea for a campaign by the State officers for a nine months' term for country schools, the same as city schools now have. Many of the State superintendents have already pledged their assistance in a nation-wide movement to bring this about.

The average length of the rural school term is only 138 days, or a little less than seven months, while for the cities it is 184 days, or more than nine months. Only two States—Connecticut and Rhode Island—have school terms exceeding nine months in the rural districts. Eleven others have country school terms of between eight and nine months. They are California, Iowa, Michigan, Maryland, Kansas, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, South Dakota, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Many States are considerably below the seven months' average. Florida and Arkansas keep their schools in rural districts open for five months, while North Carolina, South Carolina, and New Mexico have apparently been providing their country children with barely four months and a half of schooling every year.

Dr. Claxton asks a minimum school term for the rural districts of eight or nine months, eight temporarily; a minimum qualification for rural teachers of four years of high school and not less than two years of college or normal school education, and good libraries for all rural schools.

WOMEN WAGE EARNERS.

Washington, May 10.—According to the statistics contained in a statement just issued by the Census Bureau there were 72,448 women sixteen years of age and over employed in the District of Columbia on April 15, 1910. The figures given in this statement do not include all that are employed, there being a considerable number below the minimum age referred to. The figures here given comprise 30.6 per cent of all the females of the District on the date mentioned, or 36 per cent of the females ten years old and over. The majority of these women are employed under what may be termed domestic and personal service, and as is well known, the colored population is large, and as a consequence fully half of the gainfully employed women in the District of Columbia are colored. Strictly clerical occupations give employment to 8,328 women, including more than 5,000 women clerks and stenographers in the government departments.

GENEROSITY (?)

The Union Leader, published in Chicago by the employes of the traction lines, printed an incident recently that depicts the lengths to which some managers of street car companies will go to keep wages down to the lowest point, and the questionable schemes employed to gain sympathy. Here it is:

A short time ago one of our international officers was associated with a local committee in a conference with traction officials down the State. The controversy was somewhat serious and one of the company officials dwelt strongly on the generous treatment of the employes by the company. He cited the case of a deceased employe who had been in the service many years, and when no longer able to work had been tendered a pension by the company.

"Yes," answered the international officer, "we have investigated that case and find that your company first sent a doctor to the old fellow's home, and learning that he could live but a short time you immediately put him on a pension of $5 a week for two weeks, when the old fellow died, and you have been making capital of it ever since. Our association buried him and paid his beneficiary $800 and we haven't said a word about it."

And that was the fact. When the company found out the old employe's condition they instituted a pension, at an expense of $10, and tried to hold that up as a master stroke of philanthropy in looking after the welfare of their old men.

METAL MINING HAZARDOUS.

Washington, May 10.—Mining for gold, silver, copper, iron, and other metals is a more hazardous occupation in the United States than digging coal. With great disasters occurring at intervals in the coal mines and the fatalities running high, the impression prevails that no other branch of the mining industry sustains such a high rate of fatalities as coal mining. The United States Bureau of Mines, however, is authority for a statement recently given publicity, that the metal mines in 1911 recorded fatalities of more than four men for every 1,000 employed. In other words, the rate was 4.19, while the death rate in the coal mines for the same year was 3.73 to every 1,000 employed. The greater proportion of deaths in the metal mines is all the more striking when it is understood that in the metal mines there is practically an entire absence of the gas and dust that causes explosions in coal mines. It is also asserted that the American death rate in the metal mines is only exceeded by three other countries, Mexico, Peru, and the Transvaal. It compares this country's record of 4.19 men killed in every 1,000 employed with Great Britain's record of 1.64, Germany's of 1.29, and France's of 3.16. The reason assigned for the greater death rate in metal mining is that the majority of States have established systematic coal mine inspection, while in many of the States where metal mining is carried on there is no inspection whatever. The number of deaths of metal miners in 1911 is given as follows: Arizona, 70; California, 38; Colorado, 42; Idaho, 22; Michigan, 134; Minnesota, 76; Missouri, 38; Montana, 62; Nevada, 50 New Jersey, 23; Utah, 49. Deaths in the metal mines added to those in the coal mines, make a total of 3,414 men killed during 1911 in mining, or 3.81 to every 1,000 employed.

AIMED AT FEDERAL COURTS.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Ashurst of Arizona has given notice that he desires to withdraw the recommendations which he has filed with the President for the appointment of a Federal judge in the State which he represents. The Senator proposes to his constituents that they petition the Governor to call an election to designate the people's choice of a district judge for the federal district of Arizona. The Senator, in a letter to his constituents, says: "I am anxious to see an advisory election held in Arizona at the earliest practical date in order that the people may have an opportunity to express their choice for Federal judge." He further refers to the recent adoption of the amendment which amends the Constitution of the United States, and authorizes the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people, and bases his contention mainly upon this fact.

NEW YORK LABOR STATISTICS

Decrease of Unemployment Over Same Period Last Year.

STRIKES PROMINENT FEATURE

Many Cases in Court Inolving Employers' Liability Emphasizes Needed Legislation.

Albany, May 10.—Statistics made public recently by the Bureau of Labor indicate that in the last six months of 1912 the number of workers unemployed in the State was decidedly less than in the corresponding months of 1911. The figures were compiled from reports of 183 trade unions, having 113,000 members, a membership equal to 21 per cent of all the trade unionists in the State.

The improvement as to idleness, the bulletin states, was shared by the principal groups of trades, including the building, transportation, and metal industries. However, in the clothing and textile trades, a higher percentage of idleness was reported. This was due to the strikes in the garment trades and the textile workers.

But for the garment workers' strike, involving 125,000 persons, the last three months of 1912 would have been notable for fewer strikes and lock-outs than in the corresponding months of any recent year except 1908.

In the last three months of 1912 the Bureau of Mediation and Arbitration intervened in twelve disputes and settled nine of them.

Attention is called to the settlement of the strike of the textile workers at Little Falls. In this connection the bulletin says: "But the investigation of wages and cost of living had brought to light the existence before the reduction of wages and standards of living, both so low as to be a matter of public concern, with the probability of the existence of similar conditions elsewhere in the industry, which is one of the leading ones in the State. This problem manifestly was unaffected by the settlement of the strike and must be regarded as one still standing in need of investigation."

With the exception of one case of anthrax, lead poisoning was the only "industrial disease" reported in December, January, and February.

Referring to recent court decisions affecting toilers, the bulletin says: "As usual, a considerable number of employers' liability cases appear in the record and constitute continued evidence of the great uncertainty inherent in laws based on negligence, which uncertainty has been the source of many of the evils of liability laws."

The report also cites an opinion by Attorney General Carmody, holding illegal an agreement between an employer and an employe for forfeiture of wages by the latter in case of failure to give notice of intention to leave employment.

MOTIVE IN STORY.

Washington, May 10.—The following press dispatch was sent out from Sharon, Pa. It has the thumb marks of the steel trust, and should be entitled "How to Be Happy on 30 Cents a Day." Here it is: After a stay of five years in India, where he had charge of the mills and blast furnaces of the Tata Iron & Steel Company, in Satchki, O. O. Laurig has returned. In company with many workmen, largely employes of the blast furnaces of Western Pennsylvania, Laudig left here and successfully operated the mills. The holdings of the Tata Iron & Steel Company consists of two blast furnaces, four basic steel open hearth furnaces, a combination rail and structural mill and a small shape mill. Skilled native mechanics draw 32 cents a day, native laboring men 7 to 9 cents a day, while the women are given 6 to 8 cents for their daily toil. And the women do the hard and heavy work just like the men. The husbands always work with their wives and keep them hustling. When asked if the natives live well on the wage they received, Mr. Laudig said: "I never saw more smiles among the workers of India than I have seen elsewhere. They live comfortably on the money they receive and seem happy."

SUBMITTED TO PEOPLE.

Austin, Tex., May 10.—The recent session of the State Legislature finally voted to permit the people of Texas an opportunity to approve or disapprove the initiative, referendum and recall. These amendments to the State Constitution will be voted on at the election to be held next November. The initiative, referendum and recall were the preferential measures of the Texas State Federation of Labor, and the organized farmers of the State are also favorable to them. Officials of the State Federation now urge that organized labor bestir itself to the end that these measures may receive an overwhelming affirmative vote.

STOCK YARD WORKERS.

Chicago, May 10.—The effect of the literature printed in various languages under the authority of the American Federation of Labor is now being felt and sentiment is rapidly growing among this class of workers in favor of organization. There are thousands of foreigners working at the packing houses and receiving a pittance as a wage. The Chicago Federation of Labor, aided by organizers of the American Federation of Labor, are actively at work preparing for the organization of one of the largest foreign speaking unions in the country.

INTIMATES EXTENSION.

Washington, D. C., May 10.—The Postmaster General has intimated that the department is considering the advisability of recommending that postmasters above the fourth class be brought under the Civil Service rules. The transference of 40,000 fourth class postmasters to the classified Civil Service by President Taft is substantially concurred in, and it is believed that candidates for the office of fourth class postmasters will be compelled to stand an examination in the future. This latter fact, it is said, has had the effect of inducing thousands of fourth class postmasters to tender their resignations.

WANT LOBBYISTS TO REGISTER.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Kenyon of Iowa has introduced a bill that prohibits all former Senators or Representatives from acting as lobbyists unless at the request of a committee or a member. According to the provisions of the bill every lobbyist will have to be registered in the office of the clerk of the House, and the Secretary of the Senate, and in addition set forth his or her interest in pending measures. A penalty of from $500 to $5,000 for violation of the law is provided.

CAMPAIGN POSTPONED.

Wheeling, W. Va., May 10.—Owing to the recent flood, the plans under way for promoting a labor forward movement have been postponed for the time being. The flood has caused a serious loss to the labor people in this city, and it was deemed advisable to wait until matters adjusted themselves before entering upon a campaign of organization.

EXTRA COPIES.

Washington, May 10.—Extra copies of this issue of the Weekly News Letter will be mailed to all applicants gratis.

WASHINGTON MINIMUM WAGE.

Seattle, May 10.—The minimum wage law for women, which passed the State Legislature, will now be turned over to a minimum wage commission to be appointed by the Governor. It is provided in the measure that a commission shall investigate and establish such standard of wages and conditions of labor for women and minors employed within the State as shall be held to be reasonable and not detrimental to the health or morals, and which shall be sufficient for the decent maintenance of women. The commission is empowered to determine wages and conditions of labor, and can enforce its mandate by an obligatory order. According to the law, an employer who discharges or in any manner discriminates against an employe because such employe has testified or is about to testify, or because such employe may testify in any investigation or proceeding relative to the enforcement of the law, will be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and upon conviction will be subject to a fine ranging from $25 to $100.

RIGHTS OF STRIKERS

Boston, May 10.—In negotiations between striking employes and employers to adjust their differences, the former have a right legally to insist on their union being recognized instead of the employers taking the position that they will deal only with individual employes and not with any committee of a union. Such is the ruling made by Judge Loring of the Supreme Court recently in the action of John Cornellier against the Haverhill Shoe Manufacturers' Association. The judge further held that it was lawful for employes to associate themselves with a union to benefit their conditions, and they had a right to have the union present their demands to employers. This is the first time that the issue has been passed on judicially. Cornellier was employed in the Witherell & Dobbins Company factory, Haverhill, and went on strike January 12, 1912. Later a sympathetic strike was called in a number of other shops. January 13 of this year Cornellier filed a bill to restrain the manufacturers' association from circulating a blacklist, alleging that he was deprived of obtaining a job because of its circulation. He also claimed damages and was awarded $250 by Arthur P. Hardy as master. Judge Loring recommitted the case to the master to determine whether Cornellier took any part in the sympathetic strike. If it is found that he did take part the judge says he will not be entitled to maintain his bill in equity because he could not complain if the manufacturers refused to give him work as a result of a condition that he was instrumental in bringing about. Fred W. Mansfield, counsel for Cornellier, says his client was in no way active in the sympathetic strike, but was merely passive. The master will also further consider the question of damages. Ultimately the matter will go to the full bench on the issue of whether the Manufacturers' Association has a right to circulate a blacklist.

SERE AND YELLOW LEAF

Recently the Chicago Tribune printed the following editorial:

Gray hair does not work in well in our modern industrial scheme. A man of forty is more often a candidate for the scrap heap than for promotion. The machine does not respect old age, but it yields to strong muscles.

In the professions alone gray hair is not yet a passport to the land of unemployment. Here the experience which comes with age, the accumulation of facts and knowledge which time alone permits, still bring rewards and security to the man who is no longer in his prime.

Apparently, however, the spirit of industry is invading the professions, and here, too, gray hair is becoming a terror. By the terms of the German insurance act the correct age of the person insured against old age, sickness, and infirmity must be given.

The actors, and especially the actresses, protest against this provision. At present talent and youthful appearance are sufficient to secure an engagement, they say. When the manager knows the right age of every actress or actor, they assert, this knowledge will prejudice him against the elderly members of the playing fraternity, regardless of their dramatic talent and ability to appear young.

What is true in Germany is even more true here. Only in the United States there is no insurance act to press the question of age to the front, as it has been pressed in Germany. The problem of the aged and the aging, the assurance that they will not be deprived of their bread and butter on account of gray hair, must before long become an important issue for industry and the government to consider.

CRITICIZES EQUIPMENT.

Washington, May 10.—Hiram W. Belnap, chief inspector of safety appliances, has called the attention of the Interstate Commerce Commission to the apparent increase in the number of defects in the freight equipment and locomotives of railroads, and strongly recommends that the commission require carriers to report semi-annually the progress made on the equipment of their rolling stocks. It also was asserted that the freight and passenger cars and locomotives inspected during the last fiscal year showed that more than 61 per cent per 1,000 are defective. "In many instances our inspectors have found that the only test made of the efficiency of train brakes is one intended to show that the air is working through the train line," says Mr. Belnap. "Under such a system of inspection the train crew has no means of knowing the actual condition of the air brakes. Such practices cannot be too severely condemned." Included in the statement to the commission is a summary showing that during the last fiscal year the total number of casualties on steam roads was 180,123, of which 10,585 were killed and 169,538 injured.

SPRINKLER FITTERS WIN.

Minneapolis, May 10.—The members of the local union of Sprinkler Fitters and Helpers have returned to work, after a three weeks' strike and lockout. The strike and lockout were caused by the companies involved refusing to accede to the demands for an increase in wages. After a three weeks' strike, however, negotiations were opened and a settlement satisfactory to the union has been made. The concession secured is an advance of 25 cents a day until December 31, 1913, when another advance of 25 cents is to be given, running to April 30, 1916. This is the second victory won by this local union in the past four years.

SWITCHMEN TO MEET.

Houston, Tex., May 10.—The Switchmen's International Union of North America will hold its convention here, beginning on Monday, May 19, and will be in session the entire week. The local movement is preparing an extensive programme to entertain the switchmen.

PROPERTY OWNED BY LABOR UNIONS

Washington, May 10.—The American Federation of Labor has compiled, so far as it has been able to get accurate information, the names of the cities where labor temples have been erected by organized labor. It has been a difficult task, and no doubt there are many omissions, owing to lack of information. Where the value of the property is known it is given after the city. The following is a list of cities where labor temples have been erected:

Atlanta, Ga.; Boston, Mass.; Brooklyn, N. Y.; Everett, Wash.; Haverhill, Mass.; Jacksonville, Ill., cost $5,000; Kansas City, Mo.; Lincoln, Nebr., purchase price $20,000, present value estimated at $30,000; Los Angeles, Cal.; New York City; Paterson, N. J., cost $40,000; Quincy, Ill., cost $13,500; Racine, Wis., cost $40,000; Rock Island, Ill., cost $30,000; Rock Springs, Wyo., cost $30,000, owned by five locals of United Mine Workers; Sacramento, Cal., cost $95,000; Salt Lake City, Utah, cost $40,000; San Jose, Cal., cost $30,000; Seattle, Wash.; Sedro-Woolley, Wash.; Tampa, Fla., cost $7,000; Toronto, Ont., Canada, purchase price $30,000, present value estimated at $65,000; Utica, N. Y.; Vallejo, Cal., cost $12,000; Victor, Colo., cost $36,000, owned largely by the Western Federation of Miners; Walla Walla, Wash., cost $8,000; Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

List of cities where labor temple associations have been formed by the labor unions for the purpose of securing funds to purchase a site and construct labor temples:

Birmingham, Ala.; Butte, Mont.; Cleveland, Ohio; Evansville, Ind.; Fond du Lac, Wis.; Galesburg, Ill.; Hamilton, Ont., Canada; Hoquiam, Wash.; Jackson, Mich.; Meridian, Miss.; Newburgh, N. Y.; Pasadena, Cal.; Rochester, N. Y.; San Antonio, Tex.; Schenectady, N. Y.; Sheboygan, Wis.; Spokane, Wash.; Springfield, Mass.; Stockton, Cal.; Tacoma, Wash.; Troy, N. Y.; Wilkesbarre, Pa.

The following is a list of the international unions that have either erected or purchased buildings which are being used as general headquarters:

Brewery Workers' International Union, headquarters located at Cincinnati, Ohio; value of property $40,000.

United Brotherhood of Carpenters, located at Indianapolis, Ind.; property cost $73,000, with estimated value at present time of $100,000.

National Brotherhood of Operative Potters; located at East Liverpool, Ohio, cost, $5,000.

International Printing Pressmen's Union, located at Rogersville, Tenn. The property also includes a home for superannuated, a sanatorium, and technical trade school.

The Brotherhood of Railroad Telegraphers, with headquarters in St. Louis, Mo., is the owner of a valuable building site, and a combined headquarters and business structure will be erected in the future.

It is also interesting to note that there are a large number of local unions that have erected buildings in various parts of the country, the name of the union and the location being as follows:

Bartenders' Union, St. Louis, Mo.; Beer Bottlers, No. 187, St. Louis, Mo., cost, $25,600; Beer Drivers, No. 43, St. Louis, Mo., cost, $40,000; Brewers and Drivers, Nos. 4 and 16, Buffalo, N. Y., jointly, cost $15,000; Brewers' Union, Baltimore, Md.; Brewers' Union, Philadelphia, Pa.; Brewery Workers, No. 6, St. Louis, Mo., cost, $25,600; Brewery Workers, No. 7, San Francisco, Cal., cost $20,000; Bricklayers' Union, Chicago, Ill.; Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, No. 77, San Francisco, Cal.; Building Laborers and Hod Carriers' Union, Chicago, Ill.; Carmen, Brotherhood of Railway, Lodge, Cranbrook, B. C.; Carpenters, District Council, Cincinnati, Ohio, cost $17,000; Carpenters' Local, No. 36, Oakland, Cal.; Carpenters' Local, No. 1473, Fruitvale, Cal.; Loom Fixers' Local, Fall River, Mass.; Metal Polishers, No. 73, Wallingford, Conn.; Metal Workers, Sheet, No. 104, San Francisco, Cal., cost $13,000; Mine Workers' Local, Centerville, Iowa.

It is known that the local unions of the United Mine Workers own and control a large number of buildings throughout the various mining camps, but no data is available at this time to give the names and location.

they are located.

The local unions of the Western Federation of Miners have extensive property interests in the metalliferous mining camps of the West, these interests being divided between buildings erected for meeting halls and other purposes and hospitals. The following is a list of the halls and hospitals owned by the local unions in the towns and cities named, as well as the value thereof:

Butte, Mont., hall, $25,000; Lead, S. Dak., hall, $75,000; Central City, Colo., hall, $2,000; Granite, Mont., hall, $1,120; Terry Peak, hall, $17,900; Phoenix, B. C., hall, $20,000; Burke, Idaho, hall, $2,900; Gem, Idaho, hall, $1,500; Deadwood, hall, $7,300; Great Falls, Mont., hall, $13,800; Greenwood, B. C., hall, $1,680; Silverton, Colo., hall and hospital, $75,000; Rossland, B. C., hall, $10,000; Bourne, Oreg., hall, $5,000; Randsburg, Cal., hall, $3,000; Virginia City, Mont., hall, $1,500; Mojave, Cal., hall, $3,000; Central City, hall, $2,500; Ward, Colo., hall, $18,000; Telluride, Colo., hospital, $20,000; Bingham Canyon, Utah, property, $10,000; Sandon, B. C., hall and hospital, $20,450; Ymir, B. C., hospital, $9,740; Grass Valley, Cal., hall, $1,160; Douglas Island, Alaska, hall, $4,960; North Moccasin, Mont., hall, $1,200; McCabe, Ariz., hall, $3,000; Tonopah, Nev., hospital, $8,000; Snowball, Ariz., hall, $1,500; Elk Lake, Ontario, Canada, hall, $1,350; Park City, Utah, hall and hospital, $8,000; Tintic District, Utah, hall, $16,700; Index, hall, $1,000; Goldfield, Nev., hall and hospital, $20,500; Ishpeming, Mich., hall, $2,200; Nome, Alaska, hall, $3,000; Manhattan, Nev., hospital, $1,500; Bullion, Nev., hall, $1,000; Vernon, Nev., hall, $3,700; Rawhide, Nev., hospital, $2,200; Pioche, Nev., Hall, $2,500; Cripple Creek, Colo., hall, $20,000; Victor, Colo., hall, $60,000.

The local unions of musicians attached to the American Federation of Musicians are well represented in the list of local unions owning their own headquarters, and are as follows:

Baltimore, Md.; Chicago, Ill.; Detroit, Mich.; Newark, N. J.; New York, N. Y.; Philadelphia, Pa.; San Francisco, Cal.; St. Louis, Mo., and Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Teamsters Local Union, No. 85, of San Francisco, Cal., owns a building valued at $29,000.

As is well known, the International Typographical Union conducts a home at Colorado Springs, Colo., the value of which must be close to half a million dollars.

The Weavers' Progressive Association, of Fall River, Mass., owns property valued at $61,000.

The White Rats (actors) of New York City, own a clubhouse.

At Humboldt, Cal., the unions maintain a union labor hospital.

As stated in the opening paragraph of this article, this is not a complete list, and undoubtedly there are many labor organizations that are the owners of valuable property, but the facts have not been reported to the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor, either directly or indirectly, so that a record could be made. It is desirable that where omissions have been made that the information be supplied to the A. F. of L., in order that future articles bearing upon this phase of the movement may be more nearly correct than the one here printed.

PRODUCER TO CONSUMER DIRECT

The San Antonio Express recently published this interesting story:

An experiment which is to be made by an organization of Texas farmers to ship vegetables direct to consumers in Chicago will be watched with considerable interest by those who are studying the problems of marketing farm products.

This Texas organization is to ship to Chicago hampers filled with cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, onions, radishes, lettuce, spinach, and turnips sufficient, it is estimated, to last a family of five a week, and will be sold for $1.20, which, it is said, is from $2 to $3 less than a similar supply of vegetables sell for in Chicago under the existing methods. Onions will be sold at distributing stations at 3 cents a pound.

The experiment has been undertaken on the part of consumers by union labor officials, the purpose being to provide the families of workingmen with vegetables at the minimum prices consistent with economic production, shipping, and distribution. If it proves to be successful, it doubtless will lead to the organization of other systems of similar character, and it may be one of the important steps in working out the problem of marketing which has so long vexed both producers and consumers, the one receiving less than a fair price for his vegetables and the other being compelled to pay more than they should bring if their distribution was properly handled.

ABOUT LABOR CAMPS

In a recent issue of the New York Times the following appeared: The investigators of the State Bureau of Industries and Immigration report that there are 2,000 plague spots in this State, the seats of as many insanitary labor camps. More than 50,000 human beings, immigrant laborers in these camps, themselves subject to loathsome epidemic diseases, are spreading infection to the millions of residents in New York's towns and cities. The camps lack even the ordinary accommodations for cleanliness. The employers of this army of ignorant workmen are themselves untaught, or heedless of the physical and economic waste in human energy which they are incurring, to say nothing of the expense in money and lives which they are causing to the communities that suffer from the foul contagion of the camps.

No public authority seems to have jurisdiction over these plague spots. In the improved camps of the Catskill aqueduct workmen and in the new Wickwire camp near Buffalo, conducted by humane and enlightened employers, it has been found that the immigrant laborers are appreciative of better accommodations and respond quickly to the appeal to change their habits of living. The newly created state public health commission, it is reported, is considering a bill which would place all these uncontrolled labor camps under its supervision. When this measure is passed and becomes effective, one of the chief menaces to the public health in this State will be dispelled.

NEW ETHICS OF COURTS

During the recent garment workers' strike in New York many injunctions were issued against the strikers, but one judge disagreed with the policy of promiscuously issuing these writs, and called a halt. The Washington Times commented upon the judge's action as follows:

Mr. Justice Hendrick, of the State Supreme Court for New York County, has denied several petitions for temporary injunctions against the garment workers on strike in New York City. The court has taken a position which does credit to both its legal and its social sense. He said:

"I have decided to try these cases on their merits, and the appellate division has authorized me to sit here for three months, if necessary, to take the testimony. I shall not grant injunctions until I have gone thoroughly into the merits of the cases. I mean to get down to the causes of this strike and clear the atmosphere, if possible."

This means that one more court has been impressed with the impropriety of using the injunction writ with too much freedom; that injunctions will not be issued by it on ex parte statements; that the merits of the cause will be investigated before blanket interference is indulged as against great bodies of workers fighting for what they believe their rights, by what they believe to be strictly legal methods.

It is not many years since the demand for anti-injunction legislation was denounced as the offspring of anarchy. Today, the steering committee of the Republican party in the United States Senate stands committed to the anti-injunction legislation as a part of its party programme. The same leadership which a few years ago was certain that such legislation was subversive of every principle of order and good government, is now in favor of that measure.

The courts seem to be reforming themselves even faster than the Legislatures are doing it for them; but Legislatures, State and national, are lumbering along in the effort to make some progress also. The Progressive platform of human rights and sane management of social and industrial problems is getting crystallized alike into laws and precedents, because it has been accepted as right, and has proved that it has public sentiment at its back.

ELECTRICAL RAILWAY MILEAGE.

Washington, May 10.—Statistics compiled by the Electrical Railway Journal show that the mileage of new electric track built and placed in operation during 1912, including portions of steam railways electrified, was 959.29 miles, as compared with 1,191.58 in 1911. The total number of electric railway cars ordered during the year was 4,061, as compared with 4,037 in 1911.

TEACHING FARM AGENTS.

Washington, May 10.—The Secretary of Agriculture recently gave a practical demonstration of farm work to a class of 150 county agents. The work of such agents was started in the South under the late Dr. S. A. Knapp, as a result of which farm production in that section has enormously increased. The same kind of work is to be done in the Northern States and the Department of Agriculture is training agents for this work.

HAS HAD WIDE EXPERIENCE

Secretary Redfield of Department of Commerce Interviewed.

VIEWS ARE WELL GROUNDED

Knows the Human Equation, Applied Humanitarian Methods, and Won Success.

Washington, May 10.—Secretary William C. Redfield, of the Department of Commerce, formerly a successful manufacturer and large employer of labor, in an interview with a special writer for one of the daily papers in this city, gave his views in regard to many governmental policies. One of the interesting features was his opinion with reference to the treatment of labor. In answer to the question, "What was your experience with welfare work?" he said:

"Satisfactory in all respects. J. H. Williams, who made me a junior partner in his establishment, was greatly interested in the happy surroundings and mental attitude of his workmen. He gave them bathing facilities long before welfare work became known as a policy or a phrase. I went along with him in his opinions and efforts and lived through and emerged from the day when man was thought to be of less value than the machine he was employed to operate.

"Welfare work is an undeniable success, provided it is not a frill to cover up wrongs or deficiencies. It should be a state of mind and not a means of depriving men of the things they ought to have. Three fundamental requirements must be met, however, before it is attempted. First, good wages. Mr. Williams paid higher wages than were paid by his competitors. Second, regularity of employment. Third, reasonable hours. Welfare work, when supplementing these conditions, is acceptable to the employe and profitable to the employer. If welfare work is intended to be a palliative for low wages or long hours, it will fail, of course.

"The wise manufacturer understands that the men in his shop are more important to him than his machinery, and that their wages do not constitute an expense, but take the tangible form of an investment. The new conscience—and I am going back to a favorite expression of my own—teaches that the well-paid worker, free from overstrain, fatigue, or disease, is the cheapest producer. Let us say that you are employed in my foundr. The moment I realize that your health and happiness, not to mention your prosperity, are, aside from a human view of your case, assets to me, you get light, pure air, and the means of doing your work without danger to your health and efficiency. A happy employe means a happy employer. Good wages, steady jobs, and decent hours. Then welfare work. Without those three fundamentals, or any one of them, welfare work is a failure and can't fool the youngest boy or stupidest man in the establishment."

GROWING IN POPULARITY.

Washington, D. C., May 10.—The popularity of the new Parcel Post system continues to grow prodigiously. The Postoffice Department is in receipt each day of voluminous correspondence requesting information as to the use to which the new service can be taken advantage of. In many instances, farmers are requesting information as to how vegetables, butter, and eggs should be packed for mailing, and declaring their desire to make use of the service to get these products to patrons in the city. A keen interest is being taken in the C. O. D. feature, which is to be inaugurated on the 1st of July. The letters, to a very large extent, indicate that the farmers are preparing to make extensive use of the C. O. D. feature as soon as it becomes operative. At the present time the rural Parcel Post business is proportionately smaller than in the cities. The reason for this, it is asserted, is that the people outside of the thickly populated sections are not familiar with the possibilities of the service. Country merchants in many instances, however, are becoming to understand the situation, and are preparing to get new business existing on the rural routes radiating from their respective towns and villages. Since the installation of the new service more than 350,000 sets of zone rate books and maps have been published to satisfy the public demand.

LABOR MEN APPOINTED.

Indianapolis, Ind., May 10.—Edgar A. Perkins, president of the Indiana State Federation of Labor, has been appointed chief of the State bureau of inspection to fill the unexpired term of Elliott R. Hooton, resigned. Mr. Perkins announced some time ago that he would retire from office in the union movement, he having been for a number of years at the head of the State organization and active in union efforts in other directions. William Dobson, international secretary of the Bricklayers' and Masons' Union, also has been appointed a member of the State board of education.

WOULD JOIN UNION.

Washington, May 10.—During President Wilson's recent speaking tour into New Jersey he gave utterance to the following: "In almost every business there is the active and the silent partner. The silent partner usually sits back and takes the consequences and pays the bills for what the active partner vocally does. Some of my friends and colleagues at Washington think they are hearing the voice of the people when they are only hearing the part that has moved down to Washington and become vocal. If there were more than one President, I would form a union."

CLERKS AND DRIVERS STRIKE.

Buffalo, N. Y., May 10.—The lady and other clerks in many of the department stores, as well as the delivery drivers, are on strike. The causes leading up to the walkout were low wages, long hours, and bad conditions. It was a spontaneous outbreak, for no organization existed prior to the strike. The department stores are badly crippled, but strikebreakers are being employed. Organizers are now perfecting unions among the contestants and efforts will be made to secure a settlement carrying with it the elimination of the conditions that caused the strike.

MOLDERS AFTER NEW SCHEDULE

Philadelphia, May 10.—The molders in this city have presented their demands to the employers, which include a minimum rate of $3.50 per day of nine hours, a 10 per cent increase to all piece workers, time and a half for overtime, and double time for Sundays and legal holidays. The outlook is promising for the molders securing their demands without much friction.

MAY REFUSE WAGE SCALE.

Denver, Colo., May 10.—Denver and Rio Grande officials may not grant the wage increase which the members of the railroad crafts will ask in a new agreement that is being prepared. It is not believed, however, that a contest will ensue, for it is expected that an amicable adjustment will be secured.

UNIFORM MILEAGE BOOK.

Washington, May 10.—A bill to compel railroads to issue interchangeable mileage books, good on all roads, has been introduced in the House by Representative Wallin of New York. It would make a uniform mileage rate of 2 cents applicable to all railroads.

CIVIL SERVICE PROBE.

Washington, May 10.—In all probability resolutions before both the Senate and House, calling for a civil service probe, will be acted on favorably. There are two resolutions aiming to reach the same result, differing only in that one calls for detailed information from the civil service commission, while the other calls upon the Cabinet officers to supply the information. It is proposed in this resolution that the names of all appointees in each branch or bureau shall be furnished, their addresses at the time of appointment; the date thereof; the length of residence; State, territory or district to which accredited at the time of appointment; their politics at the time of appointment and now; whether in the classified or unclassified service and when so placed; their promotions if any and the cause thereof; the demotions, if any, and the cause thereof; also calling for copies of any executive orders which may have been made, extending the classified service, together with the dates thereof, also a statement giving the names and addresses and politics of the employes, those included in State classified service by State executive orders and a statement as to whether they were required to pass any examination before being placed therein. The resolutions also request that changes be suggested either in the administration of the present laws or in the enactment of new or additional legislation.

ENJOINS STATE OFFICIALS.

Roanoke, Va., May 10.—Suit has been filed in the Chancery Court at Richmond by the Blueridge Overall Company, of Roanoke, against State officials and the penitentiary board of directors, to prevent the leasing of convicts to the Star Clothing Company by the State. The Virginia Federation of Labor and the Farmers' Co-operative and Educational Union are behind this suit, which is based upon the alleged unconstitutionality of the act of the last general assembly, under which the present contract for prison labor in Virginia was let. A stubborn fight was made against the convict leasing system during the last session of the Legislature, which resulted in a decided modification of contracts then in force, the number of convicts to be employed being reduced from 2,000 to 500. It is estimated that between 4,000 and 5,000 white women are employed in making shirts and overalls in Virginia, and if the proposed system of leasing convicts becomes effective this number will be deprived of employment. The labor organizations and farmers' unions are a unit in fighting the present State system and will continue this warfare until the obnoxious system is abolished.

BACKED UP.

Sacramento, Cal., May 10.—The Pacific Gas and Electric Company has decided to recognize the recently organized Light and Power Council of California, with which it will at once open negotiations relative to wages and hours of employes. The company has for years past recognized and dealt with the individual unions, but has been unalterably opposed to dealing with the unions collectively. When the various unions whose members are employed by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company recently combined and organized what is known as the Pacific Light and Power Council of California, the company at once posted in its various plants notices to the effect that the company would not recognize or deal with the new council. To bring the company to terms the Light and Power Council instructed its affiliated unions to take a strike vote. The result of the vote showed that the unions favored calling a general strike. When the result of the vote was made known the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, through its board of directors, decided to at once recognize the Light and Power Council of California, which was advised of said action and a date set for the beginning of negotiations for a new wage scale and working agreement.

FORCES WAGE RAISE.

Baltimore, Md., May 10.—During the past few months organizers of the American Federation of Labor have quietly sown the seeds of organization among the motormen and conductors on the traction lines. These seeds had begun to take root, but the company, according to a local newspaper, exhibited a smattering of "enlightened selfishness" and advanced the wage rates 1 cent per hour, with the end in view of smothering any organization move. The office employes of the company also share in the increase. It is estimated that the aggregate increase will approximate $180,000 per year. This is the third time the company has advanced wages under similar circumstances, but some of these days the employes will summon sufficient grit to organize.

SILK INDUSTRY AT STANDSTILL.

New York, May 10.—The entire silk industry in this country is at a standstill. The 4,200 weavers in the silk mills of West Hoboken, Union Hill and Jersey City Heights, added to the strikers at Paterson, comprising practically all the workers in this particular industry, are on strike. The weavers in the three first mentioned places are out to secure an eight-hour day, the present workday being ten hours, and a 20 per cent increase in wages. It is asserted that a number of the manufacturers, members of the Manufacturers' Association, have given notice that they propose to break away from the association and treat openly with the strikers for the purpose of reaching a settlement of the difficulty.

NOT AFRAID OF OVERALLS.

Kansas City, Mo., May 10.—A millionaire's son, the Rev. Ernest C. Webb, who forsook motor cars and the easy life for the pulpit, preached his first sermon in this city recently. Among other things he said: "I want the men in overalls and the women in calico to fill this church every Sunday. The crying need of our life today is a poor man's church. I will shed this Prince Albert and preach in homespun if it will help. Not money, but service, is the greatest thing in this world. I would rather be a tub rustler in a jack-mine than a millionaire mine owner who cares for nothing but hearing gold jingle.

SHOP MEN SCORE.

Marshalltown, Iowa, May 10.—The shop men in the employ of the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad have been successful in securing an agreement, whereby they are to receive the standard wages paid upon the other trunk lines of Iowa. Under the terms of the contract the machinists and boilermakers are to receive 41 cents per hour, blacksmiths and carmen an increase of 1 cent per hour; helpers and handy men also get a 1-cent increase in all departments. Better shop conditions and working rules asked for were granted.

URGING INVESTIGATION.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Kern has declared that he will press for the proposed investigation of the conditions among the miners in the Paint and Cabin Creek regions of West Virginia. Much opposition has developed against this plan of procedure from the State government of the State in question, but owing to the wide publicity having been given to conditions obtaining in that State, it is believed that authority for the investigation will be given by the United States Senate.

DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS AFFIRMS FORMER DECISION, BUT REDUCES PENALTY

The Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia handed down its decision in the alleged contempt case of President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell, and Secretary Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, on May 5. The decision sustains the lower court in finding the Federation officials guilty of contempt of court for alleged violation of the injunction in the Bucks Stove and Range Company case in 1907, but held that the sentence of twelve, nine, and six months' imprisonment imposed by Justice Wright were unreasonably excessive.

Justice Van Orsdel wrote the opinion and Associate Justice Robb concurred, while Chief Justice Shepard dissented and submitted an opinion that the judgment should be reversed. The controlling opinion, after reviewing the case, closes with the following:

"Since the only error in the record relates to the excessive punishment imposed, justice requires, and it is so ordered, that the judgment be reversed and the cause remanded with instructions to the court below to enter orders in proper form adjudging respondents, Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell, and Frank Morrison, respectively, guilty of contempt of court and imposing a sentence upon Gompers of imprisonment in the Washington Asylum and jail for the term of thirty days, and upon Mitchell and Morrison each a fine in the sum of $500, and in default of the payment of said fine that they be confined in the Washington Asylum and jail until paid."

The proceedings are the outgrowth of an alleged violation of the injunction issued by Justice Gould on December 18, 1907, and becoming effective December 23, restraining the American Federation of Labor and its officers from continuing a boycott against the St. Louis stove company. It was charged that the three Federation officials ignored the court's decree in public utterances, circulars, and editorials in the American Federationist. In the original proceedings in 1908, which were set aside by the United States Supreme Court, the three defendants were found guilty of contempt, and jail sentences of twelve, nine, and six months, respectively, were imposed upon President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell, and Secretary Morrison. An appeal was taken by the Federation officials to the District Court of Appeals, and the judgment of the lower court was sustained. Then the case went to the United States Supreme Court, which found that the injunction was too broad in its provisions, and the proceedings were referred back to the District Supreme Court, with the option of renewing them.

Within a day after the United States Supreme Court handed down its decision, Justice Wright, on May 16, 1911, named a committee of prosecutors to investigate the case, with a view of preferring new charges. The committee was composed of J. J. Darlington, of Washington; James. M. Beck, of New York, and Daniel Davenport, of Bridgeport, Conn., the three attorneys for the stove company in its legal warfare against the American Federation of Labor, and who applied for and secured the injunction, the alleged violation of which being the basis of the contempt proceedings.

This committee of prosecutors reported on June 26, 1911, declaring that there was reasonable cause for another charge of contempt against the Federation officials. On July 31 Justice Wright issued the contempt order, and gave until August 23 to answer. A suggestion that the three respondents apologize to the court was made by the committee of prosecutors, but was turned down emphatically. Following this, testimony was taken before Justice Wright, and the respondents testified in their own behalf, the case consuming many days. Arguments were made before the full bench. Vice President Mitchell was impliedly given an opportunity to apologize, but in a communication to Justice Wright declined to accept the offer.

Chief Justice Shepard dissents from his associates in sustaining the action of the lower court, and held that the criminal contempt charged is an offense against the United States, and is therefore subject to the statute of limitations. On this contention he argues that the entire judgment of the lower court should be reversed.

On May 8, Attorney Ralston applied for a stay of the mandate to give attorneys an opportunity to consult and determine as to the form in which the case will be brought before the United States Supreme Court.

RAILROADS REFUSE ADVANCE

Assume to Protect Public, but Assertion Lacks Proof.

STRIKE VOTE IS TO BE TAKEN

Employes' Officials Ask Pertinent Question, Including a Comparison.

New York, May 10.—The conference committee of managers of Eastern railroads has declined to grant the request made by the conductors and trainmen for an increase in their wage schedules. The committee in a reply sent to the two organizations mentioned asserts that the present wage schedules are liberal and in many cases excessive, and that the request for an increase is declined "in the interest of the owners of railroad securities, in the interest of all railroad employes, and in the interest of the public as a whole." The conference committee in its communication further says: "The wages and working conditions which you request would increase the pay of the 100,000 conductors and trainmen of the railroads in the Eastern district by approximately $17,000,000, or 20 per cent per annum. The increase would be equivalent to the placing on these properties of a lien of $425,000,000 of 4 per cent securities, which would have preference over first mortgage bonds." Immediately following the notice of the managers' committee, it was decided by the officials of the conductors and trainmen to order a poll of the members of these organizations affected to determine whether the power of calling a strike should be put into the hands of the leaders. The wage dispute of the conductors and trainmen closely followed that of the engineers and firemen, both of which organizations secured raises in wages by arbitration, under the Erdman law. The railroads, however, have taken a strong attitude against arbitration of the present difficulty. The railroads are undoubtedly bidding for public sympathy, and the figures which they present undoubtedly are given with this intention. But the aggrieved employes, through their representatives, ask this question: "Is it legitimate to demand that all sacrifice to the public interest must be made by a class of men who have only received 39 per cent in increases during the period since 1890, and levy no tribute for the public interest upon the stockholder, who has in the same period received 429 per cent of increase in his returns from his investment?" It will probably be two weeks before the result of the strike vote is made public.

PLANNING FORWARD MOVEMENT

New York, May 10.—The labor organizations of this city are preparing for an organizing and forward movement, to be commenced on September 1 of this year. The reason the date has been set so far in the future is that New York City and vicinity presents a vast and important field, and a large amount of preliminary detail work is necessary. When it is understood that New York and vicinity contains a population running into the millions, with wage earners forming the great bulk, it can be readily seen what a tremendous task has been mapped out. It is believed, however, that by the time of the date set for the opening of the movement everything will be in readiness to prosecute a campaign the like of which has never been witnessed in the metropolis.

WOULD BAR UNION MEN.

Sacramento, Cal., May 10.—That representatives of labor unions be prohibited from holding a seat in either house of the Legislature was the proposal made in the State Senate recently by Senator Edward J. Tyrrell, of Alameda County, in presenting an amendment, which provides that no person holding a lucrative office under the United States or any other power, or under county, city, or State, is eligible to a seat in the Legislature, and that no member of the Legislature can be appointed to a lucrative office during the term for which he was elected. Tyrrell held that if a representative of city corporations were to be prohibited from holding a seat in the Legislature, representatives of public service corporations, public utilities, and labor unions should also be barred.

ELECTED ON SCHOOL BOARD.

St. Louis, Mo., May 10.—At a recent election held in this city Charles Lammert, president of the Building Trades Council, was elected a member of the School Board for a term of six years. He was the only union man elected upon this board, and will be of much benefit to organized labor

"FLINTS" GET SETTLEMENT.

Pittsburg, May 10.—The most remarkable contest ever waged in the history of the flint glass trade was brought to a conclusion recently when, during a conference held in Pittsburg between representatives of the workers and officials of the United States Glass Company, it was agreed to settle the differences that have existed during the past twenty years. At the Fort Pitt Hotel a joint meeting was held between the Flints' and manufacturers' representatives and at its conclusion the articles of agreement were signed by all of those present, thus bringing to an end one of the most momentous and far-reaching trade troubles that has occurred within the past two decades, involving as it does hundreds of skilled and unskilled workmen. By the terms of the agreement all the workmen who went on strike are to be reinstated by the United States Glass Company, without prejudice, and it is also agreed that President Rowe and General Superintendent Anderson shall meet with the management and local committees at the various plants operated by the company and agree on a settlement to be made on all unlisted articles of ware. The workers agreed to temporarily waive the summer stop rule with reference to the United States Glass Company, at least for the present year. It is also agreed to exercise reasonable tolerance on the old molds in use in regard to measurement, but all new molds turned out from the date of the agreement are to come under the regular rule. There are quite a number of matters which cannot be mentioned in detail, all looking toward the inauguration of an equitable arrangement, so that matters will progress smoothly in reference to general factory operations.

JOHN KIRBY AND HIS EGOISM

Rushes in Where Angels Are Fearful.

DIFFICULT NOT TO ENVY

"Treason and Cowardice" Impliedly Applied to Members of Congress.

Kirby, the National Association of Manufacturers' loquacious president, has been chattering again anent the provision in the sundry civil bill which prohibits the expenditure of any money in the prosecution of labor organizations and farmers' unions. The following editorial from the New York Globe and Commercial Advertiser, on April 28, under the caption, "Treason Afoot Again," is keen and incisive. Read it:

It is difficult not to envy John Kirby, jr., president of the National Association of Manufacturers. One would like to be as sure, as Peel said of Macaulay, about anything as he is about everything. Difficult questions are difficult to most persons; not so Mr. Kirby, compared with whom Sir Oracle is uncertain and undogmatic.

So Mr. Kirby is able to blast with unhesitating condemnation the provision of the sundry civil bill that exempts labor unions and co-operative organizations of farmers from prosecution under the Sherman law. This bill has been three times passed by the House, with practical unanimity, and once by the Senate, and is about again to be passed by the Senate. Yet the president of the National Association of Manufacturers is led to inquire, "Is not supporting such legislation as President Taft vetoed either treason or cowardice, or both?"

Traitors all are the supposedly honorable members of the two houses of Congress, and, presumptively, President Wilson, who is expected to sign the bill containing the treasonable provision. The Cities of the Plain had eight that were righteous. Washington, so far as can be discerned, has not one. The country has been betrayed, as has regularly happened since Mr. Kirby began to give the public the benefit of his advice and his comment on current events.

It is treasonable, according to this authority, to permit men to form organizations having in view the increasing of wages, the shortening of hours, and the bettering of the conditions of labor. It is also treasonable to allow farmers and fruit raisers to associate together for the common marketing of their product. Such organizations exist by the thousand. No Attorney General has thus far attacked their right to exist. Yet it is wicked to make the law conform to the facts. From time to time there is just complaint of the foolishness and hysteria of political demagogues and of labor agitators. But for high-power foolishness and hysteria of the greatest voltage no one equals a business man of the Kirby type.

WOOLEN MILL STRIKE ENDED

Contest on for Three Months Is Responsible for Increase.

TEXTILE WORKERS WINNERS

Collective Bargaining Receives an Impetus in This Successful Issue.

Trenton, May 10.—The strike of the employes of the Straus Woolen Mill has been settled by the signing of an agreement. The contest was in progress nearly three months. The agreement provides for a 10 per cent increase in wages for all employes receiving $9 per week or less; that all employes are to be reinstated in their former positions; that fifty-five hours shall constitute a week's work; that time and a half shall be received for overtime work; Saturday afternoon to be considered as overtime, and double time for Sundays and holidays; that all matters in dispute shall be adjusted by a standing committee of the union and superintendent of the mill; that there shall be no strikes or lockouts during the life of the agreement. The settlement was affected by a general organizer of the Textile Workers and a committee of the local union. The result is a decided victory for the employes and shows that by determined effort wrongs under which wage-earners labor may be righted. Organizers Travers and Thompson, and Miss Scott, of the Women's Trade Union League, gave valuable assistance in the contest, and were responsible in large part for the victory which has been won.

TO EDUCATE WORKERS.

New York, May 10.—The managements of four factories where white dress goods are made will experiment in the education of girl employes at the public schools. Although the plan is said to have been tried with success before in other cities, it is the first time that New York employers have taken up this work and provided for all expenses. It is said that the experiment, which has been approved by the Board of Education, is an outcome of the recent strike in the garment industry, which revealed a deplorable condition among some of the workers. Sixteen union girls will be the first to benefit from the plan, and not only will their expenses in school be paid, but their wages will go on at the same time. The pupils will not attend school continuously, but only on alternate weeks, one-half of the number selected being at work while the other half is attending school.

PLUMBERS GET MORE.

St. Catherines, Canada, May 10.—The recent settlement of the seven weeks' strike of the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters in this city was a more decisive victory for the union than the press has given credit for. It has been claimed in many quarters that the settlement was in the nature of a compromise, but the terms obtained will have a tendency to dispel any such illusion. The original demand was for a wage scale of 40 cents per hour, the contract to stand for a period of one year, beginning February 1, 1913. The final terms agreed on were as follows: The wage rate to be 37½ cents per hour until June 1, 1913, with an advance upon that date to 40 cents per hour, to remain in force for one year, or until June 1, 1914, when a further advance to 42½ cents per hour takes place, with the agreement to remain in force until June 1, 1915.

ASK LITERACY INVESTIGATION.

Washington, May 10.—Representative Lever of South Carolina has introduced a resolution in the House calling on the Commissioner of Education to make an investigation of illiteracy in the adult population in the United States and report to Congress the causes of it and remedies therefor. The resolution empowers the Secretary of the Interior to ask for private subscriptions for the work, and also to draw on the Treasury for whatever additional funds are needed.

HEAVY TITANIC CLAIMS.

New York, May 10.—Claims aggregating $16,000,000 have been filed by 651 claimants in the Federal District Court against the steamship company which owned the Titanic. The court recently extended for thirty days the time limit, during which certain persons residing abroad might file claims, but the time limit for all other claims has now expired.

ANOTHER STEEL REPORT.

Washington, D. C., May 10.—The Commissioner of Labor has made public another report upon conditions of employment in the iron and steel industry. The investigation was in compliance with a resolution passed by the Senate three years ago. Portions of the report are interesting and the following statement is of particular interest, owing to the fact that the American Federation of Labor is now engaged in an effort to organize the steel workers. "The workmen of the steel industry have no effective means of determining the conditions under which they work, or even of calling attention to those features which they consider unjust, and apart from the fact that a very large number of the workmen cannot make themselves understood either by their superior officers or by many of their fellow workmen, they are almost entirely without organization." While it is noted that the big steel companies have reduced the number of days required or permitted to work to six per week, yet there are still 50 per cent of the blast furnace workmen and 15 per cent of other employes that are on a regular schedule of seven days per week. The proportion of men working twelve hours per day has been practically unchanged except for two plants, which have introduced the eight-hour shift. Concerning the earnings of the steel workers the report declares that the necessity for additions to the family income is shown by the fact that in 1910 only 56 per cent of the iron and steel workers had an opportunity to earn as much as $600 if they worked every day the mill or department was in operation. Only one-sixth of all the workers had an opportunity to earn as much as $900 a year.

A LEGISLATIVE STRIKE.

Phoenix, Ariz., May 10.—A rather interesting situation recently existed in the Arizona Legislature. Some time ago the House passed a resolution commending the work of the clerks and resolving that when extra time was required over and above eight hours, that the clerks be paid for it. The Senate, however, did not take similar action and after several caucuses on the subject, these grave legislators and revered solons of the Upper House decided not to concur in the action taken by the House. Recently the Senate held a night session, but the clerks hinted that they would not be on hand. The hint, however, was not sufficient to urge the Senators to action. At the night session all of the clerks stayed away, from the secretary to the youngest assistant, and all the work—technical, mental and physical—had to be done by the Senators. A local paper in commenting on the situation makes this statement: "There is one thing about the situation that is patent to all the regular visitors to the Statehouse, and that is that the large number of clerks and attaches certainly earn their money. They work as hard as it is possible to work on the copying of bills, engrossing of bills, preparing new bills, copying reports and all that sort of thing, so that when their eight hours are up, they are tired and ready to quit." Other comments are to the effect that early in the session the Senate passed an eight-hour resolution, and it is considered inconsistent for that body now to refuse to pay overtime after the eight hours have been put in.

NOW GOES TO PEOPLE.

St. Paul, May 10.—The State Legislature has submitted an amendment to the State constitution providing for the initiative and referendum. While the bill submitted is far from an ideal one, it will, if carried, establish a precedent. The amendment provides that no amendment to the constitution of the State shall be adopted unless approved by a majority of the electors voting at a State election, or by four-sevenths of the electors voting on the proposed amendment, providing not less than three-sevenths of the electors voting at said election vote for the proposed amendment. The bill, however, contains what might be a joker that may prove advantageous to labor. One-half of the required signatures may be obtained in one county and the other half must be secured in twenty-one other counties. The bill does not provide that any certain number of the petitioners of this one-half shall be secured in each of the other twenty-one counties. It is claimed that the bill which is now to be submitted to the voters of the State, in one respect, at least, is a decided improvement over the bill which passed the House two years ago.

INTRODUCES RETIREMENT BILL.

Washington, May 10.—A specific plan for the retirement of clerks in the civil service is incorporated in a bill introduced by Representative Austin of Tennessee. Its fundamental principle is the deduction of a set amount of a clerk's pay by the government, and the granting of annuities at a certain age when the clerk is automatically retired. The bill provides that all clerks' salaries shall be increased approximately 15 per cent, and that from the increase shall be deducted a sum sufficient for the purpose of an annuity from the government. The bill works out a plan whereby the government will pay 5 per cent interest on the money deducted from the clerk's pay, it also being provided that there shall be two groups of retiring clerks, one group at sixty-five and another at seventy years. Still further provisions are made for retirement necessitated by accident or ill health, and those who leave the service entirely will not lose the money deducted from their pay by the government, but are to be permitted to withdraw their savings.

URGE FEDERAL MEDIATION.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Hughes and Representative Bremner of New Jersey, have been urged by the business and professional men of Paterson to seek to have the Department of Labor brought into the strike situation with a view to effecting a settlement of the difficulty. Representative Bremner immediately decided to make an effort to secure an adjudication without Federal aid, and sought to arrange conferences with the interested parties to the end that the manufacturers and strikers might have a medium through which to effect a settlement if possible. Failing in this plan it is quite likely that efforts will be made to invoke a Federal investigation. It is stated that 25,000 mill operatives are involved in the bitter struggle, which has been in progress for eleven weeks.

TEAMSTERS GET COMPROMISE.

Toronto, May 10.—The Teamsters' strike is over and the men have returned to work, pursuant to a compromise agreement made with the cartage companies. First-grade men are to receive $1.80 per day; second-grade, $50 a month; third-grade, $54 a month. The grade of a teamster is determined by his knowledge of the work in the city, and it is asserted that the teamsters can work up to the highest grade in four months. The agreement is an advance of $4 a month.

ORGANIZE FREIGHT HANDLERS

Salt Lake City, May 10.—The railway freight handlers and railway clerks of Salt Lake City have formed a union, the organization being one of the latest to be organized in this city. The charter list contains a goodly number of the men employed in this class of work and the prospects are that it will be augmented by many more in a short time.

TELEPHONE GIRLS GET RAISE

Washington Company Announces Advance in Pay Roll.

BOSTON SETTLEMENT CAUSE

Attempt to Organize Employes Also Contributes to Open Purse of Company.

Washington, May 10.—Increases in the wage scale of telephone operators of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, amounting to $1 a week for regular operators, with allowance for overtime, holiday, and Sunday work and annual payments for those operators who have been in the service two years or more have been announced by the company here. It is declared that these changes have been under consideration for some time, and it is claimed are in conformity with the wages and conditions now existing in New York and Philadelphia. Operators are divided into three groups. Those who have been with the company from two to five years will receive yearly a bonus of $25; those who have been with the company as operators from five to ten years will receive a bonus of $50; and those who have been with the company more than ten years will receive a bonus of $100. The bonus will be paid on the anniversary of the date the girls entered the employ of the company. Recently, when the Boston telephone operators were about to strike, this same company sent a number of girls to Boston to act as strikebreakers in case a contest took place. The Boston difficulty, however, resulted in a satisfactory agreement, including a raise in pay Owing to the fact that the local company was willing to use its employes as strike-breakers a movement was set on foot by the local central body to organize the Washington telephone operators. The change in conditions and increase in wages coming on the heels of this indicate that the company foresaw difficulty, and the concessions granted came in the nature of an effort to avoid it.

FOR MINERS' PROTECTION.

Denver, Colo., May 10.—The coal miners' safety law has passed both houses. A special committee, consisting of members of the Legislature, coal operators and miners, revised the original bill introduced and came to an agreement upon it. "This law gives Colorado the best and safest working conditions for miners in the world," said John R. Lawson, Colorado's representative on the international board of the United Mine Workers of America. Under the provisions of the law miners in the future will receive pay for mine runs, instead of screen runs. Operators will pay for the firing of shots. Examination of mines must be made before each shift goes on duty. Conditions of each room, printed in all languages spoken by the workmen, must be posted at the room opening. Rescue crews, safety devices, and other necessary equipment must be available for instant use. It is also provided that every working mine must be examined at least every ninety days by the coal-mining inspector or his deputies, who are empowered to close down any mine on a moment's notice which is deemed unsafe. Mining inspectors will have the power to search all those employed at the mine for intoxicating liquors, cigarettes, tobacco, pipes, and matches, and bar from the rooms any member carrying these articles. Timbers are to be delivered into the mine free of charge. Check weighmen are to be provided, to be paid by the workmen. No boys under 16, or women, can be employed in the mines.

TO AMEND PRINTING LAWS.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Smoot of Utah has introduced a bill to revise and codify the printing laws, with reference to the Government Printing Office. The bill was passed by the Senate at the last session, and was favorably reported to the House, but action was not taken thereon. It is proposed to abolish the Senate and House folding rooms and have the distribution of public documents centralized as much as possible in the Government Printing Office. The bill would give each Senator a credit of $2,000 to draw against for documents to send to his constituents, and $1,600 to each member of the House for the same purpose. At present the law fixes the number of copies of each public document for each Senator and Representative. The proposed change is to give each Senator and Representative an opportunity to have selection of documents to be used. Senator Smoot claims that the bill will effect a saving of $750,000 annually to the government. The printing laws have not been revised, as a whole, for more than twenty years.

RUBBER WORKERS GROWING.

Akron, Ohio, May 10.—A meeting of the Akron Rubber Workers, who are members of the Rubber Workers' Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, was held recently at Grace Park. This gathering was the first of numerous open-air meetings, which are proposed to be held during the summer to carry forward the work of organization. It was announced at the meeting that the membership of the union has now reached 2,761, all of whom have paid their April dues. It was also asserted that the work of organization is rapidly progressing at all of the local plants and that sentiment in favor of the union is constantly growing.

STEAMFITTERS' NEW SCALE.

Cleveland, May 10.—The steamfitters have just negotiated a new wage scale. It provides for an increase of 50 cents a day for journeymen, raising the minimum from $4.50 to $5 per day. The helpers have secured a raise of 25 cents per day, making the minimum $2.50 instead of $2.25. The Saturday half-holiday also has been secured, which runs to and includes Saturday, September 22. The agreement provides for the establishment of a standing committee, composed of three employers and three journeymen, for the purpose of adjusting any grievances that may arise. The agreement runs until September 1, 1915.

TRANSFERABLE TICKETS.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Thomas of Colorado has introduced a bill in the Senate which would make railroad tickets regarded as personal property and which shall be assignable and shall pass by delivery to any holder. A railroad refusing to accept a ticket transferred shall be liable to a fine of $50 and the holder shall have redress by a suit for damages.

REFUSE CONFIRMATION.

Albany, May 10.—Gov. Sulzer recently sent the name of John Mitchell to the State Senate for confirmation as State Commissioner of Labor, and the Senate refused to comply with the Governor's wishes. In the closing hours of the Legislature Gov. Sulzer again sent to the Senate the nomination of John Mitchell and that body repeated its action and again refused to confirm him.

BAKERS SECURE RAISE.

Washington, May 10.—The members of the Bakers' Union in this city have secured a general increase of 25 cents per day from all the Washington bakeries save one company. It is the intent on of the bakers to enforce their demands to the point of a strike providing the company referred to does not accede to the advance.

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

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FORT WORTH WANTS CREDIT

Asserts First Clerks' Minimum Wage Scale Adopted in South.

WAS FOUGHT FOR AND WON

Retail Clerks' Union Responsible for Initiating Standard for Salespeople.

Fort Worth, Tex., May 10.—The Union Banner, the local labor paper, in a recent issue, editorially, said: "For a week or more nearly every newspaper we have seen contains a news item stating that a certain Washington merchant had established a minimum wage scale for his retail lady clerks, fixing it at $8 per week. The very first minimum wage scale for female clerks was established some ten years ago by the Fort Worth Retail Clerks' Union. After a struggle lasting for several weeks $5 was established as the minimum. The following year this was increased to $6 per week. Some three or four years ago one of our department store owners established a minimum wage scale for his establishment of $9 a week, this being the smallest sum paid even a beginner, whether man or woman. This merchant informed us of what he had done several months after its inauguration, but pledged us not to publish his name. Even now he will not give his consent to having any publicity given, though in union circles the information has spread. Speaking of this minimum wage scale he said he was prompted to establish it by a feeling that he could afford it and that not to do so would be wrong. In other words it was a matter of conscience, but after experimenting with it for a few months he said he found it to be the best movement he had ever inaugurated—that it was one of the best investments he had ever made." There can be no objection in placing credit where credit is due and it is devoutly to be hoped that occurrences of this kind will have the effect of establishing minimum wage scales in every industry where women are employed that rise well above the necessity line.

TO ORGANIZE MINERS.

Pittsburgh, May 10.—Somerset County, which is practically the only coal-producing region in this part of the country in which the miners have not been organized, is to be invaded this summer by organizers of the United Mine Workers. In fact, organizers are now in what the union men term this last sore spot. To organize every mine in Somerset County would mean that the United Mine Workers would be strengthened by at least 15,000 members. At present not a mine in this county is organized and some of the biggest coal-producing corporations in the country are located there. The Mine Workers realize that this is an opportune time for organizing work, as the operators are having difficulty in securing a sufficient number of men to operate their mines. Coal companies are advertising all over the country for miners, and are paying fair wages and still unable to get sufficient miners to run the mines at their full capacity. Mass meetings are being held every day in the district and the coal operators are keenly watching developments.

SWITCHMEN GET CONCESSIONS.

Chicago, May 10.—A settlement of the wage dispute between the switchmen and the managers of the nineteen Chicago railways has been reached. The agreement was the result of four months' arbitration between committees. More than 5,000 men were involved. The concessions made included an increase in wages of 30 per cent for a number of men in back-up service, giving yard men the right to handle milk runs in Chicago switching district; compensation for yard men required to lose time to attend investigations and re-examination; concessions of thirty minutes in starting time rule; one day's pay for yardmen when called and not employed; application of yardmen for employment must be rejected within thirty days from time submitted or applicant will be considered accepted and employed; rule governing seniority strengthened; rule providing yardmen will not be required to couple and uncouple air and steam hose or chain up cars strengthened. The managers committee refused to arbitrate the item involving time and a half for overtime and Sunday and holiday work and these demands were laid aside for the time being.

SIOUX CITY PAINTERS WIN.

Sioux City, Iowa, May 10.—The strike of the union painters is over. The master painters, realizing the hopelessness of continuing the contest, have accepted the new wage scale and signed the agreement. Union conditions will hereafter prevail, despite the interference of the Commercial Club and the suggestions of the union-busting industrial association. Every union painter in Sioux City is now at work receiving 45 cents an hour, with a forty-eight-hour week. Since the difficulty with the master painters, a large number of new members have been added to the local union, and there is said to be only four painters in the city now working in one-man shops in this vicinity.

STRIKE SETTLED.

Auburn, N. Y., May 10.—The striking employes of the International Harvester Company's twine mill have returned to work. The men accepted the terms drawn up and submitted by Edward P. Chapman, personal representative of Gov. Sulzer. It will be remembered that this company made a threat to move its plant to Germany and in the pursuance of that threat dismantled a portion of the mill. Owing to this fact all of the men could not be put back to work at once, but it is stated that as soon as the machinery is reinstalled all will be given employment.

SHOP TRADES SUCCESSFUL.

Washington, May 10.—President Ryan, of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, reports that a settlement has just been reached with the Southern Railway and allied lines, which constitute an immense mileage, whereby all shop trades have been granted a substantial increase, the carmen receiving a 2 cent per hour raise, applying to the entire system. The settlement in this case is retroactive, in that the new scale is effective from April 1.

BROTHERHOOD OF CARMEN.

Kansas City, Mo., May 10.—The Brotherhood of Railway Carmen has organized a new lodge at Sherbrook, Quebec, Canada. The System Federation on the Rock Island system has reached a settlement with the management. The negotiations were conducted in an amicable manner, and the members of the carmen's organization will receive an increase in pay ranging from ½ cent to 2 cents per hour.

CHICAGO GARMENT WORKERS.

Chicago, May 10.—The joint board of the United Garment Workers has begun an active canvass to unionize the entire industry in this city. Members of the local unions recently formed committees and visited the employes of the association's shops in their homes on the West and North side. Through racial and neighborhood ties the union workers are in touch with a large percentage of the unorganized workers. During a day and evening set apart for this work volunteers and committees consumed the entire time in talking to garment workers about the situation. The campaign is largely of an educational trend, explaining the advantages to be gained by being members of the union and the results achieved by the workers in the garment trades where full co-operation has been had. It is stated that everywhere the volunteer organizers were received with welcome and all garment workers appeared eager to secure the information which was imparted. Literature printed in various languages is being distributed, and already the effect can be visibly seen in the increased number of applications being received by the local unions. Those in charge of the organization movement are proceeding with great energy but with equal caution. It is proposed to thoroughly interest and educate the unorganized employes before taking any decisive action.

BREWERY WORKERS' VICTORY.

St. Louis, Mo., May 10.—After nearly a month of conferences and negotiations, the brewery workers of this city have secured a new three-year agreement and a blanket increase of $2 per week for all members. The agreement is retroactive, and is to be paid from April 1. The managers of the breweries had fought the increase stubbornly, having offered a compromise of $1.25 per week increase. Every local union involved balloted upon this offer, and it was almost unanimously rejected. This fact being made known to the brewery owners, it was only a short time until the employers acceded to the demand for the $2 increase. Owing to the $2 raise granted the engineers a year ago they made no wage demands at this time, and their scale remains as heretofore. Under the new agreement firemen will now get from $16.75 to $18, oilers, $17 to $20, brewers and maltsters, $21 to $22, freight handlers, ice plant workers, and laborers, $15.50 to $17.60, peddlers, $16 to $18, and girls, $9 to $10.

FEDERATION IS RECOGNIZED

Railroad Company Enters Joint Agreement with Shop Crafts.

MATERIAL INCREASE SECURED

Settlement Will Have Far-reaching Effect in Trades on Railroads.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, May 10.—A victory for the system Shop Federation has been gained by the general committees of the Rock Island in securing concessions from the general management in Chicago, which will result in substantial increases in pay of all men employed in the local shops. Under the terms of the new agreement the Rock Island system is brought to the standard of other roads in the competitive field throughout the Western country. The most important feature in connection with the present status of affairs is the recognition of the System Federation movement and the securing of joint agreements covering all crafts which expire at the same time. Under the terms of the contract the Machinists, Boilermakers, and Boilermakers' Helpers secured increases at this point of 2 cents per hour, while the Carmen secured 1-2 to 2 cents increase, with adjustments at certain points on the system ranging from 2 cents to 6 cents. This includes, at Cedar Rapids, the Sheet Metal Workers and Painters, who are a part of this organization. The Blacksmiths and Helpers get raises and adjustments running from 1½ cents per hour to 8 cents. Apprentices in all crafts are granted the same ratio of gain as are the journeymen. In Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, and Southern points the maximum increase is ½ cent lower than in Cedar Rapids.

LABOR DEPARTMENT NEWS.

Washington, May 10.—Robert Watson, of Lowell, Mass., who has been employed in the Department of Commerce and Labor for several years, has been made chief clerk in the new Department of Labor. George C. Box, Buffalo, N. Y., has been appointed disbursing clerk. Samuel Gompers, jr., has received the appointment of chief of the Bureau of Publication. The appointments mentioned come under the operation of the civil service, and the appointments are merely a matter of selection from the civil service list. In addition to this, however, Hugh L. Kerwin, Wellsboro, Pa., has been appointed by Secretary Wilson as his private secretary. Mr. Kerwin acted in this same capacity for Mr. Wilson while he was Congressman from the Fifteenth District of Pennsylvania.

REPEALS ANTI-BOYCOTT LAW.

Denver, May 10.—The Nineteenth General Assembly repealed the anti-boycott law that has been so obnoxious to the labor movement of the State. There probably was no law on the statute books that was so iniquitous as was the anti-boycott law, and the action of the Legislature repealing it was an act worthy of commendation. The Governor has not as yet signed the law, but it is believed that he will not run against the prevailing sentiment in this State. The passage of the law through the Legislature was largely attributable to the efforts of the union men who were members of the General Assembly.

PAINTERS' CONVENTION.

Rochester, N. Y., May 10.—The convention of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators, and Paperhangers will be held in this city. Among the cities competing for this convention were San Francisco, Los Angeles, St. Louis, Kansas City, and Reno, Nev. By a referendum vote, however, the result of which has just been announced, the Brotherhood decided to hold the convention in this city. It will be convened here on September 1, and probably continue for two weeks.

CARMEN GET INCREASE.

Seattle, May 10.—A new wage scale has been granted by the court to the employes of the Seattle, Renton and Southern Railway Company, all of whom are members of the union. The schedule becomes effective at once, and provides an increase of 1 cent an hour to all classes up to the fourth year, when a flat wage of 32 cents per hour is to be the scale.

BANNER YEAR IS PREDICTED

Philadelphia Building Trades Show Splendid Activity.

DIFFERENCES ARE ELIMINATED

Increases in Membership and Wage Scales Follow Broad Policy of Forbearance.

Philadelphia, May 10.—The Philadelphia Trade Union News, in its last issue, says: "The outlook for the Building Trades Council this year is one of the most promising in the history of Philadelphia. Factional differences that have existed for many years have been obliterated through the good work of the officers and the organization committee. Membership in the various locals has been increased 25 per cent. Employers are so well satisfied with the fairness of the attitude of the Building Trades Council during the past year that little or no trouble will be experienced by the various locals that have arranged a schedule of increased wages. Elevator constructors are holding conferences weekly with large firms and have announced that no trouble is expected. The constructors demand an increase from 56 1-4 cents to 65 cents an hour and an advance for the helpers from 37 1-2 cents to 42 1-2 cents per hour. The Brotherhood of Carpenters has received assurances of the largest contractors in the city that their demands for a 5-cent per hour increase will be granted June 1. Hoisting engineers have now a 100 per cent organization and their demands for a new schedule of wages has been acceded to by most of the employers. The lathers expect to secure a new and favorable agreement without difficulty. The painters have been successful in the last two weeks in enforcing their wage scale of 42 1-2 cents per hour in all large shops in the city with one exception. As a general proposition, the building trades are in splendid shape and ready for the big building season which is now at hand."

SIGN FIRST AGREEMENT.

Ithaca, N. Y., May 10.—The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and the Master Builders, of this city, have entered into an agreement which will remain in force until May 1, 1914. It is the first time in the history of the local labor unions that articles of agreement have been drawn up by the employers and employes to govern for a definite period of time the business relations of the contractors and the workmen. The articles were drawn up at a meeting held by the committee on arbitration, which amicably settled the wage question. The agreement carries with it an increase of 2 cents per hour, the union shop, and also provides that a committee of the contractors and a committee from the union are to hereafter meet the first of each year to discuss the wage scale and working conditions for the coming year. The execution of this agreement is of much interest, owing to its being, as above stated, the first application of collective bargaining by the Carpenters, in this city.

PASS OPPOSED BILL.

Albany, N. Y., May 10.—The organized labor forces of this State worked unremittingly to secure the passage of the Murtaugh-Jackson compensation bill and was successful in securing its passage through the House of Representatives. The Senate, on the other hand, passed the Foley bill, which allows employers to take out insurance with casualty companies, and its rates of compensation are not so high as the rates of the Murtaugh-Jackson bill. The Foley bill was backed by a powerful lobby, maintained by the casualty companies. In the closing hours of the State Legislature, however, the House of Representatives passed the Foley workmen's compensation bill, thus concurring in the action of the Senate. Thus the Foley bill, opposed by organized labor, goes to Gov. Sulzer for his approval or disapproval. The Governor has expressed his preference for the Murtaugh-Jackson bill, and at this time it is doubtful whether he will sign the bill passed by the Legislature.

PLANNING LABOR TEMPLE.

Sioux City, Iowa, May 10.—The Sioux City Trades and Labor Assembly has taken definite steps looking to the construction of a labor temple to be erected for the use of the labor unions in this city. Action on the project was taken at a recent meeting of the assembly, when a committee was appointed to bring the matter to the attention of the individual unions with a view to devising ways and means to carry out the project. The action of the Trades and Labor Assembly was prompted from the fact that many other cities are either making arrangements or actively engaged in the construction of labor temples, and it is believed that sufficient funds can be procured during the coming year to erect a suitable building for the uses of the unions.

SHINGLE WEAVERS.

Seattle, Wash., May 10.—The strike for a union scale of wages in Ballard, a suburb of this city, is now in its fourth week. In spite of the fact that the affected mill companies are offering strikebreakers far above the union scale, in addition to a per diem bonus, room and board, but few have been secured. A charter has been issued to the Timber workers of Three Lakes, Wash., and vicinity, the charter list comprising a considerable portion of the 400 men employed in this industry in the section mentioned. The work of organizing the timber workers of the Pacific Coast is satisfactorily progressing, and each week local unions are reporting increases in membership.

RAILROAD TELEGRAPHERS.

St. Louis, Mo., May 10.—Henry B. Perham, President of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers, states that during the month of April the organization secured revised contracts and increases in wages on the following railroads: New York, Ontario and Western; Atlantic Coast Line; Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburg; Temeskaming and Northern Ontario; New York, New Haven and Hartford; Boston and Maine, and the Boston Terminal Company.

BUILDING TRADES STRIKE.

Wheeling, W. Va., May 10.—A strike of all the building trades in this and surrounding territory involving 4,000 tradesmen, is on. All building operations in the district are at a complete standstill. The primal cause of the stoppage is the refusal of the contractors to meet the demands of the hodcarriers for an increase from $2.60 to $3 per day.

COAL MINERS STRIKE.

Cardiff, Wales, May 10.—Twenty thousand coal miners in Southern Wales are on strike against the open-shop policy.

AN EIGHT-HOUR DECISION.

Washington, May 10.—A Louisiana statute passed in 1902 provided that no factory, manufacturing establishment, office building, warehouse, workshop, or any business establishment keeping open or running day and night should permit, except in case of emergency, or compel the stationary firemen therein employed to work consecutively in any one day more than eight hours, and that a full day's labor should consist of eight hours and no more; provided that the provisions of the act should not apply to stationary firemen or assistants employed in the petroleum industry, or in any cotton gin, or any sugar plantation, or in the sawmill industry. The Supreme Court of Louisiana held, in the case of the State of Louisiana vs. Barba, that the statute was repugnant to the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, in that it denied the liberty of contract in relation to labor and the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by said amendment, as construed by the Supreme Court of the United States. The court further held that the express exemption in the act of steam plants, such as oil refineries and sawmills, worked an unjust discrimination against other plants operated by steam, and that the division of such plants into two classes, the one running day and night, and the other running day or night, was purely arbitrary, and furnished no reasonable basis for discriminating against the former in the matter of hours of labor.

MOTHERS' PENSION APPROVED.

Harrisburg, Pa., May 10.—Gov. Tener has approved the act recently passed by the Legislature providing for county systems of pensions for mothers under the administration of a commission of from five to seven women to be named by the Governor for each county availing itself of the provisions of the law. The commissioners are to investigate all cases and may recommend payments to any abandoned mother or widow who is unable to maintain her children at home. Payments are to be made monthly and the combined maximum payment shall not exceed $12 a month for one child, $20 a month for two children, $25 a month for three children and $5 a month for each additional child. For the purposes of the new law an appropriation of $200,000 has been made. With the addition of Pennsylvania the mothers' pension system has been established in four States.

LEAVEN OF SHORTER HOURS

Newport News Shipbuilding Company Reduces Working Time.

EVIDENCE OF UNION INFLUENCE

Eight Hours on Government Work Effects an Extension to Other Departments.

Newport News, Va., May 10.—On the last pay day at the Newport News Ship Building and Dry Dock Company a notice was placed in the pay envelope of each workman, which, in part, says: "After careful consideration the company has voluntarily decided to reduce the working hours of the yard, until further notice, to a nine hour basis, Saturday afternoons off, making a week of 50 working hours. This applies to workmen except those engaged exclusively on eight-hour contracts. The hourly rate will be increased on April 30 so that men working 50 hours per week will receive the same average weekly pay as they do now." The influences of the organized labor movement are not all credited to it, but this is one instance where organized labor has surely made itself felt. The eight hour day is the normal work day, and year by year large concerns employing many workmen are realizing that the shorter workday must eventually come and are meeting this sentiment by granting to their employes the reasonable workday. The eight-hour law that applies to government work, which was strengthened during the last session of Congress, is undoubtedly responsible for the announcement made by this company, as this concern has the contract to build the battleship Pennsylvania.

SUNDRY CIVIL BILL.

Washington, May 10.—Up to the time of closing the forms for this issue of The Weekly News Letter (Wednesday noon) the Sundry Civil Bill is still under consideration by the Senate, with the prospects that a vote will be had before the session closes. The discussion is being had almost wholly upon the provisions in the bill prohibiting the expenditure of any of the money appropriated to the legal department of the government in the prosecution of labor organizations and farmers' unions. Labor is being defended in its position by one of the labor group, Senator Hughes of New Jersey, as well as other Senators, while, of course, the provisions are being opposed by other Senators. The outlook is that the bill will be passed with the proviso included, and in this event the bill will then go to the President for his signature, it having already passed the House.

OFFER COMPROMISE.

Kansas City, Mo., May 10.—The Master Painters' Association has made an offer of 55 cents per hour to the painters who are on strike, but it has been declined. The men are on strike for a rate of 60 cents per hour, and consider that under the present condition of living this is a fair rate. The Master Painters' Association has been broken into by some of the master painters signing the new agreement, and it is believed that there are several others who are about to sign the new agreement. For this reason it is considered that the strike will be won in the very near future.

STREET CLEANERS GET RAISE.

Erie, Pa., May 10.—The city council has concurred in the request of the street cleaners for an increase in wages from $1.60 to $2 per day. The common branch granted the request recently. The ordinance carrying the raise now only needs the signature of the Mayor to make the increase effective. The street cleaners of this city are organized, which was mainly responsible for the advance.

DEMAND EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Cleveland, May 10.—The charter commission members will be urged by representatives of the Cleveland Federation of Labor to include in the new city charter a provision that all city employes shall work an eight hour day. The commission recently voted against a similar provision.

TEAMSTERS GROWING.

Cleveland, May 10.—Another large increase in membership of the Teamsters' Union was recently had when 300 joined the organization. There are now over 1,100 teamsters in the organization, and it is growing by leaps and bounds.

UNITY OF PURPOSE COUNTS

A. F. of L. Decision Redounds to Benefit of Pipe Trades.

GROWTH AFTER AMALGAMATION

Steamfitters and Plumbers Settle Differences and Greatly Improve Conditions.

Worcester, Mass., May 10.—The following is taken from the Labor News, published in this city: "Until a few months ago the steamfitters of Worcester were practically unorganized. The trouble experienced for several months because of the failure of those who belonged to the I. A. to amalgamate with the local recognized by the A. F. of L. kept the craft at a standstill. Both unions had a fairly good number of members, but even together they controlled only a small portion of the men working in the craft. Immediately after amalgamation, however, a change took place. Taking advantage of the special dispensation from the United Association, whereby the initiation fee was greatly reduced for a specified time, the membership went to work with a will, and from a membership of about thirty it has grown until it now totals 125. Not in many years have the steamfitters in Worcester been in such excellent shape as at present. The members are employed in every big shop in the city, and much interest is being manifested by the membership at every meeting, and the attendance is exceptionally good. The amalgamation of these two unions has had a splendid effect, and has worked great good also among the other crafts."

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION.

Washington, May 10.—As recounted in the Weekly News Letter of a previous issue, when the Boston telephone operators were on the verge of striking, the management of the local telephone company induced a number of girls to proceed to Boston to act as strike breakers in the event of an open rupture. Washington, however, was not the only place from which telephone operators were drafted, numerous other cities furnishing a quota. This fact has been brought to the attention of the Department of Labor and in reply to an interrogatory Secretary Wilson said: "Whenever the Department of Labor has the means at its command it will make an investigation to determine whether or not the reports are true relative to taking girls from various cities for the purpose of acting in the capacity of strike breakers. When young girls are taken from their homes to distant cities without adequate protection and only for the purpose of making profit upon their services, it is a matter that should be given full consideration and publicity. It is one of the functions of this department to thoroughly familiarize the public with the conditions of labor and recommend such legislation as would correct any iniquitous system where the health and morals of wage earners are involved."

LOCALITY NO BAR.

Camden, N. J., May 5.—In a verbal opinion delivered in the suit of J. Wesley Clark against the Camden Pottery Company under the employers' liability act, Judge Boyle held that New Jersey employers are liable for accidents occurring to their employes while in the discharge of their duties in another State. The question of extra territorial jurisdiction was raised by counsel for the pottery company. Clark, while engaged as a driver for the Camden Pottery Company, was sent to Philadelphia to deliver some goods and while in that city met with an accident. This is one of the first cases of its kind to arise in this section under the employers' liability act. The case will now be tried just as though the accident in which the employe was injured had occurred within the limits of the State.

LAUNDRY WORKERS STRIKE.

Tacoma, Wash., May 10.—A strike of the workers in a local laundry is on. The strike is the result of the formation of an organization among the laundry workers and an effort to secure better conditions. The immediate cause of the strike, however, was the discharge of several of the employes, presumably because of their recent affiliation with the union. Many of the other laundries have increased wages, done probably with the view of preventing the progress of the organization. The total membership in the city now reaches 236, with prospects of securing the entire number employed in the laundries and the establishing of a permanent Laundry Workers' Union.

TROLLEYMEN VICTORIOUS.

Asheville, N. C., May 10.—The strike of the motormen and conductors on the traction lines in this city has been brought to a close by an amicable settlement. The men have been conceded a raise as follows: The former rate for the first year was 18 cents per hour, and under the new agreement it will be hereafter 20 cents per hour. Former rate for second year was was 19 cents, now 21 cents. For the third year the old rate was 20 cents, now 22 cents. For the fourth year and thereafter the old rate was 21½ cents, and will now be 23 cents. This is considered to be a magnificent victory for the men involved in the contest.

TWELVE-HOUR MEN STRIKE.

Duluth, May 10.—The members of the day pressroom crew at the American Knitting Company's plant in Superior walked out when their demands for increased pay and more help were denied. The men desired an increase from $2.65 per day to $3 per day, and claim that the conditions under which they work are such as cause excessive physical strain, the pressed cakes which they handle coming to them at the temperature of 190 degrees. The hours are also long, the men working twelve hours, with half-hour off for dinner. The day and night forces are now on strike, and the men are unorganized.

BALTIMORE'S GOOD WORK.

Baltimore, May 10.—The Trade Unionist of this city says: "For the first time in the history of the labor movement in this State trade unionism has invaded the precincts of the Eastern Shore. President Ferguson of the State Federation and James J. Sullivan, of the Baltimore Building Trades Department, recently organized two local unions and paved the way for the future organization of at least four more organizations in Cambridge. Inspired by their success, Easton and Salisbury will be visited for organizing purposes."

TILE ROOFERS' NEW SCALE.

Cleveland, May 10.—The new scale of 55 cents an hour for the Slate and Tile Roofers has gone into effect, and all workmen in this branch are employed.

OHIO BUREAU OF LABOR.

Columbus, May 10.—A bulletin has just been issued by the Bureau of Labor statistics for the quarter ended March 31. Among the statistics included in the report is the demand for male help in the five employment offices which aggregated 6,261, a decrease of 2,569 from the previous quarter and an increase of 1,762 as compared with the corresponding quarter of the preceding year. Positions were secured as follows: Cincinnati, 2,720; Cleveland, 1,783; Columbus, 2,125; Dayton, 2,368; Toledo, 1,630. The grand total of positions secured was 10,644, a decrease of 2,889 from the previous quarter and an increase of 1,840 as compared with the corresponding quarter of the preceding year. The total number of calls for female help was 4,721. The demand for laundry and day workers totaled 2,498; domestics, 640; culinary service, hotel and restaurant, 463; factory work, 85; store service, 6; clerical and stenographic, 23; and professional, 6. Of the total number of registered female applicants for work, laundry and day workers, totaled 3,326; domestics, 442; culinary service, hotel and restaurant, 441; factory work, 93; store service, 8; clerical and stenographic, 25, and professional, 11.

NEILL CONFIRMED.

Washington, May 10.—The nomination of Charles P. Neill, as Commissioner of Labor to succeed himself, was confirmed by the Senate on May 1. Opposition had previously been offered by some Southern Senators, based upon the alleged inaccuracies of a report on women and child labor in the South, published by the Labor Bureau. The report of the conditions made public by the Labor Bureau, however, have never been proved inaccurate. At the time the report was made public an attempt was made to authorize another investigation along the same lines, but failed. The nomination was formerly made by President Taft, and no action was taken in the Senate to confirm Mr. Neill prior to the adjournment of the Sixty-second Congress. Shortly after the new administration was inducted into office President Wilson renominated Mr. Neill. The nomination was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor in the Senate and that committee reported favorably to the Senate and the action indicated above was taken.

TROLLEYMEN GET ADVANCES

Activity of Amalgamated Association Shown in Increases.

EXTENDS OVER BIG TERRITORY

New Divisions Chartered and Betterments Secured Daily History of Organizaton.

Detroit, Mich., May 10.—R. L. Reeves, an executive officer of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes, gives the following list of activities of local unions reported to the general office: Division No. 382, located at Salt Lake City, recently secured a 2-cent per hour increase. The aggregate annual increase will exceed $50,000, and 600 members will participate. Divisions Nos. 114 and 272, of Youngstown, Ohio, have secured a new agreement that advances their wage scale 2 cents per hour, with 200 members to share in the increase. Division No. 89, of New Castle, Pa., comprising more than 100 members, has just negotiated an agreement by which a wage increase of 2 cents per hour was secured. Division No. 176, at Sharon, Pa., also has secured a new agreement and a new wage rate which is an advance of 2 cents per hour over the old one. Division No. 379, of Niles, Ohio, also has obtained a wage increase of 2 cents per hour. During the month of April local divisions were chartered by the Amalgamated Association at Jamestown, Fredonia, and Buffalo, N. Y.

INDORSE WAGE SCALES.

San Francisco, May 10.—Upon recommendation of the executive committee, the Labor Council recently indorsed the following wage scales and working agreements: Shoe Clerks' Union, providing for closing shoe stores on Saturday nights; brewery workmen, providing for an increase of $2.50 per week for apprentices and a general increase for all workmen of $1.50 per week; keg beer drivers, providing for general increase of $1 per week and change in starting time from 6:30 a. m. to 7 a. m.; bottle beer drivers, providing for general increase of $2 per week and change in starting time from 6 a. m. to 7 a. m.; beer bottlers, general increase of $2.50 per week and the elimination of apprentices; Cracker Bakers' Union, with practically no change in the old agreement.

CIGARS MADE IN PHILIPPINES.

Washington, May 10.—The first annual report of the Department of Commerce and Labor, page 152, gives the average daily wages of the cigarmakers in the provinces of the Philippines as follows: Occidental negros, .17 pesos or 8 1-2 cents; Cebu, .78 pesos or 39 cents; Cayagan, 1.47 pesos or 73 1-2 cents. The average number of hours of work reported range from ten to twelve per day. For the first eight months of the fiscal year there were received from the Philippine Islands 65,000,000 cigars. One-half of the cigar factories in Manila are owned by Chinese coolies.

FOR FEDERAL AMENDMENT.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Thomas, of Colorado, who is chairman of the Suffrage Committee, states that a report by that committee favorable to the national enfranchisement of women by Federal constitutional amendment will be made immediately after the Finance Committee has completed its work on the tariff bill. The resolution for the amendment will come into the Senate at the time of the general tariff debate.

AUTO WORKERS GET INCREASE.

Cleveland, May 10.—The Winton Automobile Company has granted an increase of 10 per cent to all its employes, numbering about 1,100. The reason for this increase is because of the fact that there are a considerable number of the employes members of the Automobile Workers' Union.

VOTING BILL ADVANCES.

London, May 10.—The House of Commons has passed a second reading on the plural voting bill without division. A motion to reject it was defeated by a vote of 312 to 221. This bill is to abolish the system of individuals being permitted to vote more than once at the elections in the British Isles.

CARPENTERS ON THE BOOM

Advances in Wages and Betterments Being Secured.

LARGE LIST CHARTERS ISSUED

Amicable Adjustments Reached in Many Places, While Strikes Also Win.

Indianapolis, May 10.—General Secretary Frank Duffy reports the following successful trade movements, the news of which have been transmitted to the general headquarters. Cadillac, Mich., increase in wages from 35 cents to 40 cents per hour. Reading, Pa., increase in wages from 35 cents to 40 cents an hour, and reduction in hours from nine to eight per day. Warren, Pa., eight hour day established on May 1. Newport, R. I., after a strike lasting two or three weeks an increase in wages has been secured from $3.76 to $4 per day, with a three-year agreement. Included in the agreement is a further increase of 2 cents per hour after next year, and an additional 2 cents the year following. Binghamton, N. Y., secured an increase in wages from 37½ cents to 40 cents per hour, with the understanding that another increase will be granted next year. The United Brotherhood of Carpenters is having an organization boom, the following local unions having been chartered during the month of April: Caney, Kans.; Los Angeles, Cal.; Erie, Pa.; Brenham, Texas; Petersburg, Ill.; New Rochelle, N. Y.; Jackson, Miss.; Falmouth, Mass.; Memphis, Tenn.; Provo, Utah; Caldwell, Texas; Valdosta, Ga.; Liverpool, N. Y.; Chippewa Falls, Wis.; Tomah, Wis.; Rusk, Texas; Richmond, Va.; Utica, N. Y.; Riviera, Texas; Dunkirk, N. Y.; Moncton, N. B., Can.; Bonham, Texas; Chatham, Ont., Can.; Columbus, Ga.; North Battleford, Sask., Can.; Goreville, Ill.; Mobile, Ala.; Cambridge, Md.; Oneida, N. Y.; Sarnia, Ont., Canada; Minneapolis, Minn.

PROTEST WASHED MONEY.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Martine of New Jersey recently told the Senate that a bank president in Tennessee had written him declaring that the "man should be tarred and feathered who put pantaloons on the American eagle adorning our currency." Senator Gallinger of New Hampshire suggested that the Treasury's "money" laundrying process might wash the pants off. Senator Martine was seeking to have printed as a public document letters which had been received from 587 bank presidents and cashiers throughout the country, protesting against washed money and proclaiming it as "the counterfeiters' delight." Senator Martine did not secure permission to have these letters made into a public document, being opposed by Senator Smoot. The Plate Printers' Union of this city has renewed its campaign to stop the use of washing machines in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The fight has been given considerable impetus by the attack on the process made in the Senate by Senator Martine.

FOREIGNERS JOINING UNION.

Elvins, Mo., May 10.—The Union Journal, an organ of the miners, in a recent issue says: "The foreigners, like the Americans, are flocking to the standard of the Western Federation of Miners and demanding action. They do not realize just how the organization in this district failed in its demands last time, but they do realize that something went radically wrong and they want to remedy it. Two interesting meetings of foreigners have been held within the past two weeks, one at Flat River and the other at Leadwood. A large number of new members were initiated at each meeting, as well as many becoming reinstated. Large crowds were present at both meetings, and enthusiasm and determination were very much in evidence."

KEYMEN FAVOR STRIKE.

Youngstown, Ohio, May 10.—The telegraphers on the Meadville and Mahoney divisions of the Erie Railroad are practically unanimous in favor of a strike if their demands are not met by the company. There are between 1,200 and 1,300 men concerned in the strike movement and so far every vote cast has been favorable. The keymen are asking for a 12 per cent increase in wages and other concessions in working conditions. Meetings are being held at the various stations along the line, the station agents, telegraphers, telephone operators, signal men, and lever men generally attending.

IN AID OF CLERKS.

Washington, May 10.—It is the general impression that the government clerks can look forward to legislation affecting their interests at the regular session of Congress next winter. Cabinet members who have consulted with the President have been informed that they will be required to prepare and present plans for the bettering of conditions of the thousands who labor in the respective departments. Among the matters to be considered will be a retirement fund, old age pension, and the general welfare of those who have given the best years of their lives to the government service.

RISING TIDE OF IMMIGRATION.

New York, May 10.—Indications that the high-water mark of immigration through this port will be reached this year are contained in the April figures, showing that 108,980 aliens entered New York during the month, an increase over April, 1912, of 32,531, and the total for the four months beginning January 1 shows an entry of 298,067 immigrants, as compared with 202,977 in the corresponding period of 1912, or an increase of 95,090. Last year 605,000 immigrants entered this port.

GOVERNMENT HALF HOLIDAYS.

Washington, May 10.—Saturday half-holidays are soon to be discussed by the President's Cabinet, with the prospect of an early determination. Secretary Bryan, it is stated, is favorable to half-holidays for five months. Other members of the Cabinet hold varying views upon this question. The matter will be settled definitely in the near future.

STRIKE ENDED.

Buffalo, N. Y., May 10.—The Buffalo Coach and Auto Owners' Association has compromised with the drivers who are on strike. The men went out on a demand for $14 a week and two days off a month with pay. The compromise gives the drivers $14 a week and one day off a month.

GARMENT WORKERS' CONTRACT.

Portland, Ore., May 10.—General Organizer Mary C. Daly of the Garment Workers, after having spent three weeks here, was successful in signing new agreements with three of the large firms, securing for the Garment Workers improved conditions.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1913

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Legislation humanitarian in character cannot but materially benefit the wage-earners, but the organized workers cannot afford to put all their industrial eggs into one partisan political basket.

With the increasing scope of influence of the American Federation of Labor, with its past history of achievements, its present virility and ever-increasing accomplishments, compels it to meet obstacles by the legion. Political panorama painters, academic philosophers, industrial alchemists, teeterboard logicians, high-brow doctrinaires, pessimists—all are competent (?) to furnish blue-prints on short notice, minutely depicting the route to be taken to lead the wage-earners out of the industrial wilderness. Notwithstanding, the Federation is still the greatest and most effective combination of workers the history of the world has ever recorded.

The organizing campaign of the American Federation of Labor continues vigorously. The issue of the News Letter of May 3, containing literature in eighteen different languages, has already gone through two editions, with a total of 150,000 copies. Another edition will be necessary. Steadily the wage-earners of the country are enlisting in the organized labor movement. Officials of the unions, craft organizers, A. F. of L. volunteer organizers, State Federations, City Central Bodies; in fact, every component part of the American Federation of Labor has given loyal and effective support. This unity of thought and action is reflected in the recent tremendous growth of Labor's Federation.

UNITED STATES SENATORS NOW AMENABLE

The State Legislatures of the various States will hereafter be deprived of electing United States Senators. The constitutional amendment requiring that United States Senators be elected by a direct vote of the people is now a part of the Federal Constitution.

The fact that this reform has been consummated has already had its effect upon the rules of parliamentary procedure in the Senate. For years there has been an intense feeling upon the part of a large majority of the people that the United States Senate was not only a check upon the popular branch of Congress, but also inordinately unresponsive to the public will. Representatives newly elected from among the people when great changes in public thought were occurring responded with celerity, but the ponderous machinery of the branch elected by the State Legislatures lumbered along in a comfortable and easy, unheeding fashion.

True it is there have been and are many United States Senators who endeavored to reinvest that body with the spirit of sympathy and activity to meet the ever-changing conditions. The Legislatures, the barrier between the people and Senators, were, until the recent revulsion of public sentiment, as equally unresponsive as those upon whom Senatorial honors were conferred. Since action by the Senate itself could not be secured, the preferential primary performed the service of giving the people an opportunity of expressing their choice as to who should represent them in the north end of the Capitol, although the Legislatures legally held the power to disregard the preferential primary.

Legislative assemblies, however, sensed the increasing directive power of the people, who demanded that still greater scope be given them in formulating legislation, and that aspirants for all public offices be selected by a direct expression of the voters. Sentiment so veered and crystallized that finally the staid and conservative Senate, fully conscious of the fate that would be meted out to those who longer temporized, submitted a constitutional amendment for popular election of United States Senators.

That public sentiment had been correctly interpreted was clearly shown by the celerity with which the State Legislatures cast their affirmative votes for this amendment. This great and beneficial change is now a reality.

The Representatives in Congress have been and are amenable to the will of the people. When in the past labor suffered grievous wrongs and the national legislative body was called upon to right them, apathy and negligence were conspicuous. Unable to obtain redress, labor called upon the people to send men to the House of Representatives and the Senate that would listen to its grievances and promote remedial legislation. Labor made it plain that it proposed to exercise its influence in favor of those candidates who were its friends and vigorously oppose those who were its enemies.

No one will deny that its efforts were effective in defeating reactionaries and representatives of private interests in the House, for it could and did reach the people. The Senatorial problem, however, with its almost impenetrable barrier, was not so easily solved.

Hereafter both branches of Congress will be elected by a direct vote of the people. Candidates for the United States Senate will be compelled to undergo the scrutiny of the people, the Legislatures, a most convenient "fence" in the past in which to conceal their political misdeeds, having been shorn of its power.

United States Senators are now amenable to the people's will.

"JUDICIAL PERSECUTION"

The District of Columbia courts, before which President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell, and Secretary Morrison have had to appear in defense of an alleged contempt, are the subject of some severe criticism by the press. The judicial warfare opened in 1907, and while the original controversy out of which grew the contempt proceedings has long since been amicably adjusted, has continued with intermittent lapses between appeals until now. The New York World, in editorially commenting on the recent Court of Appeals decision, affirming the verdict of the lower court, gives vent to expressions that can be classified as a stinging criticism. The caption of the editorial is "Judicial Last-Ditchers," and follows:

"As time passes, the contempt proceedings against Samuel Gompers and others growing out of the boycott of the Bucks Stove and Range Company five years ago take on the appearance of judicial persecution.

"In December, 1908, Gompers and his associates were summarily adjudged guilty of contempt and sentenced to imprisonment by the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. The decree as entered by Justice Daniel Thew Wright carried anger and resentment in every line of it. On appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States the judgment was reversed in May, 1911, by a unanimous decision, on the ground that if there was cause for action at all it should have been by civil and not criminal proceedings.

"Without heeding this rebuke, the District court, in June, 1912, again arraigned the defendants and again found them guilty, imposing jail sentences. This verdict is now affirmed by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia, which reduces Gompers' penalty to imprisonment for thirty days and imposes fines only in the cases of his associates. Thus, while punishments are lightened, they are nevertheless inflicted upon the old theory of criminality which the highest court in the land has disavowed and repudiated.

"It is not possible to indorse the acts and words of Gompers, Mitchell, and Morrison in this controversy, but the courts of the District of Columbia are even more in error. They are not dealing appropriately with citizens who are in the wrong. They are carrying on a personal feud which has already received a most impressive rebuke. They are judicial last-ditchers, who are introducing reprisal into what they call the administration of justice."

The New York Times, which can usually be depended upon to knock the knuckles of labor whenever opportunity affords, while taking its accustomed position relative to the Federation officials, delivers a cleverly worded rebuke to the court. The importance of the criticism is its source. That part of the editorial dealing wholly with the court is as follows:

"An appeal will be taken, and there is an opportunity for both Mr. Gompers and the entire community to reconsider their positions soberly. To speak candidly, there is danger that the courts will be used for private purposes, as the Legislatures have been, unless a halt shall be called. The Supreme Court annulled the first sentences for contempt in this case because the process for contempt was used as a means of punishment in a private proceeding. The main offense was conspiracy in constraint of trade, but judgment was given for contempt of court on motion of private counsel. That was not action by the court for the protection of its dignity in the interest of the public rather than of itself. When this error was corrected another mistake was made. The court referred inquiry regarding its dignity to private counsel, and the sentence is now so far reduced that the court practically is rebuked again. It is by no means sure that an appeal may not again be successful. In that case, and even if the reduction of the sentence shall prevent another remand for retrial, the efficiency of the lower courts in protecting their dignity leaves something to be desired in the interest of both the court and the public."

STILL WITH THE DEPARTMENT

Joseph Stewart, Second Assistant Postmaster General under the Taft administration, still retains the same position under the present Postmaster General. Gen. Stewart, as he is called, represents that small portion of society which believes that those who work for wages constitute a dangerous element when intrusted with the right to associate themselves together for their common protection.

To obain a correct measure of his breadth of view, it is only necessary to refer to the testimony he gave at the hearings before the Committee on Reform in the Civil Service of the House of Representativs in May, 1911. Gen. Stewart is very much opposed to the American Federation of Labor, and in that particular respect there is a strong mutuality.

In answer to a question of the chairman of the Committee on Civil Service Reform, inquiring as to the right of the railway mail clerks to organize, Gen. Stewart replied:

"They have, and it has never been denied. They have two creditable organizations—one, including a membership of 13,000 out of 17,000 employes. It is not an organization that the Postoffice Department objects to. We have encouraged it, and, personally, I have attended, upon invitation, its last two annual conventions and addressed them. It is not to organization, but to the character of organization, to which we object; and that is what I am here today, so far as the Postoffice Department is concerned, to speak upon particularly."

Mr. Kent—By "character" you mean the right to strike and the right to petition?

Mr. Stewart—The right to strike and the assumed right to organize an association which limits its membership to only a few of the employes, which excludes the officers and the supervisory force of the service, which holds its meetings behind closed doors, which has its secret password, and which does not permit the officers of the department to know what its deliberations or purposes are.

This view of the general places him in the front rank as a champion of the "gag" order which deprived the employes in the Postoffice Department of their citizenship rights, and which has been repealed by Congress. The objection to organization among the employes, save where the officials of the department were permitted to control and use it for their own purposes, together with the gag order in force, could only be classified as an admiration society, spineless and useless.

The executive orders of ex-President Roosevelt and ex-President Taft have been repealed by an act of Congress. The executive orders were suggested and urged by the Postoffice Department officials at the time they were promulgated, and not upon the sole initiative of the two ex-Chief Executives named, although they must also assume their full responsibility.

Gen. Stewart was a party to and vigorously enforced the "gag" orders, and yet, even though his conception of authority over the employes in the Postal Service has been repudiated by Congress, he still retains his position as Second Assistant.

Political parties are driven from power because of the governmental policies they espouse and execute. The recent Presidential election witnessed the chastisement of a political party long in power. The people decreed that changes in government were necessary, and in connection with this decree it is hardly to be expected that men will immediately renounce the course they have for years followed. The destroyer of political liberty under a Republican administration cannot become the champion of political liberty under a Democratic administration.

MASTERS AND SLAVES

BY SCOTT NEARING

Was Industry made for Man or was Man made for Industry?

If Man was made for Industry, then it is just that Industry should be the Master and Man the slave. It is just that five hundred thousand men and women should be killed and injured annually while they minister to the industrial deity; it is fair that women toil long hours for a pittance; it is right that humanity writhe in agony under the goad of the industrial taskmaster.

If, on the other hand, Industry was made for Man, then it is just that Man should be the Master and Industry the Slave. It is fair that any calling which crushes men's bodies, destroys the souls of women and little children, or takes a toll of life and joy greater than its contribution to the happiness of the community, should be reformed or abolished.

Two thousand years ago Jesus rebuked the Pharisees and justified His disciples—who had picked corn on the Sabbath day—in these words: "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath." The world listens for the modern prophet who shall proclaim: "Industry was made for Man, and not Man for Industry."

—From Everybody's Magazine.

TRYING OUT SAFETY DEVICES

Washington, May 10.—Since the announcement by the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company of its intention to try out two of the many automatic stopping devices submitted in the competition for the $10,000 prize offered by President Mellen there has been considerable interest manifested in the mechanical principles involved in these devices. The company has therefore decided to furnish additional information regarding the devices to be tested.

The devices to be tried out do not comply with all the requirements called for by the companies, but both are said to possess considerable merit. They are similar in so far that they are both intermittent contact devices, and the most promising feature of each is that the apparatus is tested each time the train passes over it.

The speed control feature of one of these devices is particularly promising, as it is possible to vary the speed control, according to physical conditions and speed desired, so that at one point if the enginemen should exceed a speed of twenty-five miles an hour while passing a stop or slow down signal the train would be stopped; while at another point, if he should exceed a speed of fifteen miles an hour under the same conditions, the train would likewise be stopped. It is possible to install this stopping device so that a distinct warning may be given by audible and visual signals without stopping the train, and if these signals are not heeded by the engineman the brakes will be applied in sufficient time to stop the train before reaching the point of danger.

The other device is similar in many respects to a number that were submitted in the contest, but it contains certain features that the others lack. The winning feature is that there is no electrical apparatus on the locomotive, and therefore the device may be inspected by enginemen who are familiar with air-brake apparatus and valves. The ground apparatus is so similar to existing signal systems that a competent signalman would find no difficulty in maintaining it. Should any moving part, either on the ground or on the locomotive, become demaged or broken, it would give a stop indication to the train.

Both systems can be installed so that they will not interfere with the third rail or overhead wires on railroads that are operated by either method. They will not interfere with the present equipment or existing physical conditions of the right of way. Snow, ice, and freezing weather will have no effect on them. The brake application will be so gradual that there will be no tendency to injure passengers or damage equipment in case brakes should be applied. They may both be installed regardless of whether they be connected with a signal system or not. This would apply in case a railroad desired a train to slow down at certain places, such as sharp turns or at points where slow speed is required.

They may also be installed and connected with any known signal system, and will compel the engineman to slow down to the proper speed where it is desired to pass a train over a crossover in the direction of traffic from one running track to another.

The fact that the New Haven Railroad is about to experiment with these devices is not intended to convey the impression that either one of them will be the final choice of the company. The contest is open until July 1, and there may be submitted before that time devices of much more merit than those already presented.

MUSEFUL COAL MINER.

There are few, indeed, who are aware that William B. Wilson, Secretary of the Department of Labor, ever set his meditations to metre. While claiming no distinction on this score, he published, in 1903, a small brochure containing a number of poems he had written at various times, entitled "Memories." The dedication runs thus:

"To my father and mother, whose hopes that their son might follow a literary career have not been realized, this little book is affectionatly inscribed as a partial compensation for their disappointment."

The first poem is not distinguished by a name, but has the simple word, "Introduction," as its title. This poem is apropos at this time, as it fits with nicety the present, and is indicative of the character of the Secretary of Labor, and is as follows:

> No great, refined, poetic powers I claim;
> No college learning smoothes my humble muse;
> Unknown to fortune, hidden far from fame,
> I simply sing, because to sing I choose.
> Nor shall I sing of lords or ladies fair,
> Of kings or queens vain-glorious in might,
> Of priests or parsons bowed in holy prayer
> Imploring grace to guide their flocks aright.
> Of chivalry, or gallant knights of old,
> Who gloried in their prowess with the lance;
> Who fought for ladies bright, for kings and gold,
> For transient fame and pleasure, too, perchance.
> But, as I tune my rude, uncultured lyre
> I'll sing the praises of the multitude
> Whose toiling brawn and brain and heart's desire
> Moves ever for their fellow beings' good.
>
> When England's mighty nobles gathered round
> The sturdy oak on Island Runnymede,
> All by a promise to each other bound
> To give the future freedom's title deed
> Signed by King John, and ratified by those
> Whose genius grasped the coming of the hour
> To organize the forces, to oppose
> A tyrant monarch's autocratic power,
> A strike was threatened. On issue hung
> "Liberty or death," freedom or servile strife
> To all the race that speak the English tongue
> And value liberty more dear than life.
> When Freedom's goddess, sweet enchanting maid
> Had fled Columbia's ever beanteous shore,
> When low, the hand of Justice had been laid
> And brave men fought with desperation, more
> To 'fend their homes from arbitrary wrong
> Than to resist the payment of the cash
> Which Britain sought, because her arm was strong,
> To have, or force collection with the lash.
> When through the time that tried men's souls
> The patriot fathers stood, unconquered still,
> Trusting to Him whose destiny controls,
> To add a Yorktown to their Bunker Hill.
> 'Twas but a strike, born of a Union, made
> By separate States, each of itself too frail
> To thwart the wrongs imposed. But with the aid
> Each gave the other, wrong could not prevail.
> But strikes like these are far beyond my muse,
> I leave them for a greater Minstrel's themes,
> While I, a lowly, humble strain may choose
> And sing a toiler's hopes, his waking dreams
> Of coming power used for the common weal,
> Where all alike in God's eternal plan,
> Sharing the burdens and the profits, feel
> The spirit of the brotherhood of man.
>
> But as I tune my rude, uncultured lyre,
> I'll sing the praises of the multitude,
> Whose toiling brawn and brain and heart's desire
> Moves ever for their fellow beings' good.

BOOKS

"The Immigrant Invasion," by Frank Julian Warne, author of "The Slav Invasion and the Mine Workers," "The Coal Mine Workers," and other publications. Dodd, Mead and Company, New York.

This publication has just been issued and is replete with historical data, gathered from every source where information was obtainable. To those who are interested in the immigration question, and all should be, the book is an invaluable addition to the general literature upon this subject. It is known that transportation companies are deeply interested in securing contracts to transport the peoples of foreign countries to our shores, and on this phase of the question one paragraph is interesting. "The steamship companies, by steady growth, have developed their facilities so as to take care of a large volume, and it is greatly to their business interests to see that this volume is at all times as near its maximum as they can make it. The mere transportation of the immigrants in itself means a business of about $75,000,000 a year." Throughout the entire volume comparisons are made on the conditions of the immigrants and the effect which the dumping of thousands of aliens into America's industrial cauldron has upon the standard of living in this country. One chapter is devoted to the labor union, and its text follows closely the opinions held by the students of the organized labor movement. Only one criticism can be offered, which perhaps may not be amiss, and that is its terminology in at least one respect. The author designates "labor" as a "commodity," which places it in the same category as a leg of mutton or a load of bricks. Labor power is life, and therefore undergoing constant changes. Labor power reaches its maximum with health, decreases with sickness, and ceases at death. However, the publication is a valuable addition to the literature upon this subject.

"The Wage Earner and His Problems," by John Mitchell, copyrighted and published by P. S. Ridsdale, 1305 Kenyon Street N. W., Washington, D. C. A special autograph edition is being printed, price $1 per copy, and can be procured from the publisher.

President Gompers penned the foreward in this publication and a portion of it indicates his opinion of the value of the matter contained therein: "Centuries ago it was written 'of making many books there is no end.' Today as then there are books written by the vain and the foolish, by those of little understanding. These last but a brief while and then vanish into the void of time. There are others written by men who told of things which were lasting and fundamental, and who dealt with bedrock truths and the eternal verities. These were men who had been fired by life's dreams and purposes, whose suffering and experiences made them more keenly sensitive to the passions of humanity. They were seers who could interpret life, who could enrich others by the wealth of their experiences and enter into every mind and life, and inspire by their coming. Through their books we are granted the privilege of communion with these leaders of all ages, of sensing their personalities and understanding their characters, of grasping the meaning and import of that imperishable personality which is gathered from the forces of all the ages that have gone before, and shall live in all the ages that are to come. These are the books that shall live and never die; they deal with human life, its depths and its shallows. Those which tell of life, human efforts and aspirations are what may with profit constitute the reading matter of all our people that they may understand and appreciate the world in which they live and the lives of all among whom they dwell, that the common life may be uplifted to a thing of joy and unlimited development. When we see in the common life the joy and the purpose of living, when all can find there the opportunity for the realization of the best and the greatest in each individual, then there will come into the life of the whole nation an understanding that will bless and glorify the work that is done by each and all. A book that interprets the motives and the purpose of a movement that meets a vital human need, that in familiar terms tells the ignorant, the heedless and the isolated, why that movement is what it is, is a book that will do a part in creating and fashioning the forces of national thought and action. Of such a character is this book by John Mitchell."

"Studies in Trade Unionism in the Custom Tailoring Trade and History of the Journeymen Tailors' Union of America," by Charles J. Stowell.

These studies have been compiled under the direction of the economics department of the University of Illinois, with the co-operation and assistance of the Journeymen Tailors' Union of America. They are based upon authentic records, some of which cannot be duplicated, and contain facts that every tailor should know about his union and his trade. A portion of the work is devoted to the rise and growth of the tailoring industry in England and America, and to the beginning of organized movements among the tailors. Other portions of the book deal with present conditions in the trade, and contain a detailed statistical account of the present Journeymen Tailors' Union from its foundation to the present. Statistics are presented on the subject of membership and growth, strikes and lockouts, wages and policies. The general executive board of the Journeymen Tailors' Union is making an endeavor to place the book in the hands of each member of the union. The price of the book is $1, postpaid, and can be procured from General Secretary E. J. Brais, box 597, Bloomington, Ill.

"A Personal Narrative of Political Experiences," by Senator Robert M. La Follette. Robert M. La Follette Publishing Company, Madison, Wis.

This book has just been put upon the market and is an autibiography of the famous Senator. It is written in an entertaining narrative style, the many human interest incidents giving it a shade or color different from any publication of a like sort issued for many a year. It really is the story of a man who, having a knowledge of the human equation, and, being opposed to the political dictatorship of men who pursue politics as a mercenary occupation, has sufficient strength of character to impress the voters with his integrity and ideals. Senator La Follette, from his first entrance into the political arena, has been compelled to battle against the votaries of venal politics. In view of this, the story of his steady advancement from prosecuting attorney of a small county in Wisconsin to the United States Senate partakes in some measure of a romance. As one of the leading public men of our day, he takes high rank. The perusal of his own story is an inspiration to those who are interested in the general welfare of mankind.

FOR A PRACTICAL TEST.

New York, May 10.—A venture has been launched by several New Yorkers with a view of making a practical test of the minimum wage problem. It is stated that it is the plan of those interested to establish a string of candy exchanges and lunchrooms in which the women employes are to receive a minimum wage of $12 a week. Two of these places are to be in Harlem and one in the Bronx, as well as one store in the center of the city. There is an effort to be made to realize a fair profit for the business, and to put the minimum and living wage theory to a practical test.

WILL VOTE ON AFFILIATION

Bricklayers to Soon Decide by Referendum.

URGE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Fear Further Encroachment on Jurisdiction by Changing Conditions.

Washington, May 10.—The Bricklayers' and Masons' International Union will soon submit to its membership the matter of affiliation with the American Federation of Labor. The last issue of the official Journal of the International Union contains the following, it being the leading article:

"The question of affiliation with the American Federation of Labor, as ordered by the St. Joe convention, will within the next two months be submitted to subordinate unions for another vote. The question is of serious moment to our International Union. A thousand times more so than when submitted at various times in the past. During the past ten years there have been many changes in building construction, until today we are beset on all sides with questions of jurisdiction over certain work. These claims come both from the newer and the older organizations chartered by the A. F. of L. and are a result of the changing of their classification of work, whereby they seek to grab a little more work for themselves at our expense.

"A great deal of the interference with our well-established classification is 'sic-ed on' by those whose only desire is to foment strife and trouble for us, simply because we have remained isolated from other trades. They forget that there are others interested, and that they are innocent sufferers. We refer to the employer and to the building public, and they are powerless to move or take sides in such matters. If they recognize our claims, then the threat is made that the entire building trades will be pulled off their work, and conditions are such that today in several cities there are employers involved in jurisdictional disputes affecting our interests who have always proved their friendship to us in years gone by in just such situations, they ask, 'What are we to do under such a condition?'

"In our state of isolation during the past forty years our employers have always patted our members on the back and urged them to continue it. 'Don't get mixed up with the other trades and be in trouble all the time,' they have said. Today their tune is changed, and your international officers in many of our recent jurisdictional troubles have been told that it would be better for all concerned if we were affiliated with the rest of the trades. Had we affiliated with the A. F. of L. ten or fifteen years ago our jurisdictional troubles of today would never have occurred. We should have been on the inside, and classifications of work conflicting with ours would not have been approved. As matters now stand the more the newer and older organizations can change their classification so as to 'bite off,' as the saying goes, 'a little more of ours,' the more delighted they appear to be.

"The question is, Where will this all end? On the one hand our contractors, always fair to us and willing to do the right thing by us, face a complete stoppage of work at the hands of the Building Trades Department of America should they accept our classification of work in preference to recognizing a claim to some particular portion of it demanded by some other labor organization.

"Our affiliation with the American Federation of Labor and Building Trades Department of America will not clear away the jurisdictional troubles that have been and are now being forced upon us by other trades who attempt to steal from us our various branches of work and incorporate same in their own classification. These we shall have to adjust ourselves. Affiliation would stop all further encroachments, however, and in the old disputes we would be enabled thereby to protect our rights more evenhanded. In other words, the rest of the trades would not be pitted against us, and this would be something gained, and a very important gain in so far as the position of the involved employer is concerned.

"If affiliation is again turned down by our union, there is only one other recourse for us, and that is that the next convention empower its executive officers to form, say, with five structural trades, an offensive and defensive alliance. Which shall it be? In our opinion affiliation is the proper procedure. We belong to and should be an active part of the great American labor movement."

STATE OF EMPLOYMENT.

Boston, May 10.—The Bureau of Statistics, labor division, of Massachusetts, has just issued its twentieth quarterly report on the state of employment. For the quarter ended December 31, 1912, complete returns relative to the state of employment were received from 994 labor organizations in Massachusetts, with an aggregate membership of 174,359, or approximately 80 per cent of the entire trade union membership in the commonwealth. Of the entire membership represented by these reports, 15,914, or 9.1 per cent were reported as unemployed. This per cent is lower than the corresponding percentage reported at the close of December of each year since the collection of returns of this character was inaugurated, but as compared with the percentage for the close of the preceding quarter, September 30, 1912, it is higher by more than 4 per cent, the increase being partly due to unemployment in the building trades, owing to unfavorable weather conditions and particularly to the unemployment of a large number of garment workers on strike in the city of Boston. In the building trades, which comprise 16.7 per cent of the aggregate membership recorded, the per cent of unemployed on December 1, 1912, was 14.9 per cent, as compared with 20.9 per cent on the same date one year previous. In the boot and shoe manufacturing industry, 4.6 per cent of the organized employes were reported as unemployed, as compared with 2.9 per cent one year previous. In the textile industry 12.9 per cent of the organized employes were reported unemployed on December 31, 1912, while one year previous 7.5 per cent was the record.

REPORT ABOUT READY.

Washington, May 10.—The special investigators working under the authority of the United States Children's Bureau have nearly completed their survey of the selected industrial cities of the country with reference to the conditions affecting the health of babies. The investigators were charged to study carefully the various periods of child life, including the teething period, the school days, and the periods of adolescence. These statistics, when compiled, will be the first ever gathered by the government for the purpose of instituting measures of a preventative character. It is estimated that there are 29,500,000 children to be served under this bureau.

OPERATORS STRIKE.

San Francisco, April 26.—Following the refusal of the Marconi Wireless Company to grant their demands for an increase in wages, the wireless operators employed on the steamships of the Pacific Coast are on strike. There are 225 operators belonging to the Wireless Operators' Union on this Coast. The men demand an increase from the present wages of $35 a month to $50 and $125 for shore operators, and from $35 to $45 on ships to $50 and $60. S. J. Konenkamp, international president of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union, is in charge of the strike.

LABOR OF CHILDREN.

Washington, May 10.—One in ten of all the wage-earners employed in the manufacture of cotton is under sixteen years of age, according to the Bulletin of Manufactures, just issued by the Census Bureau. The national child labor committee points out that the textile industries are still the largest employers of children in factories, for this Bulletin based on the census of 1910 shows 40,221 employed in the manufacture of cotton goods, 11,111 in hosiery and knitting mills, 9,942 in the woolen and felt industry, and 8,143 in silk factories. The Bulletin shows also 11,035 workers under sixteen engaged in canning and preserving and 78,951 scattered among seventy-seven other manufacturing industries. The largest percentage of factory workers under sixteen are found in the South Atlantic States and Alabama; the next largest in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. It should be noted that these figures do not include the great child-employing occupations such as mercantile establishments, messenger service, homeworkers, and street-trading.

MAKING PROGRESS

Pittsburg, May 10.—The following article is taken from the Pittsburg Dispatch of recent date: Days of the famous Schoenville strike of 1909 were vividly recalled to McKees Rocks residents when 4,000 people gathered on the top of the old Indian Mound, the meeting place during the strike days, and listened to the exhortations of six representatives of the American Federation of Labor. These men have been working in that vicinity for the past four weeks, making the first attempt to organize the workingmen there since the strike. They disclaimed any intention of urging a strike, but said that their sole purpose was to organize the workingmen. It had been previously announced that both the American Federation of Labor and the Industrial Workers of the World would hold rival mass meetings at the mound yesterday. This announcement drew a large number of those who were there. No meeting was held by the latter organization. The meeting was the first held on the mound since the strike. The speakers claimed that while some opposition had been met with on the part of the Pressed Steel Car Company, they hoped to include every one of the thousands of workmen in the steel company's plant in their union and they will then ask the company for recognition. John L. Lewis, general organizer for the Federation in this district, presided, and delivered the first address from a rudely constructed platform. He said that the workmen want to organize that they might sell their labor to the highest bidder in a businesslike manner and with mutual contracts between employer and employe. Mr. Lewis took a rap at the Industrial Workers of the World. Its members, he said, live on hysteria, strife, and bloodshed. About 109 applications for membership were received by Thomas Colnar, the secretary and business agent. The speakers announced that the meetings will be held weekly.

RECORD LOSS ON SEA.

New York, May 10.—The year 1913 has proved thus far the most disastrous that ship owners on both sides of the Atlantic have experienced in any three months in nearly fifty years. Correct estimates of the loss caused by storms that have swept the coasts of Europe and America cannot be obtained, but basing an estimate upon the reports of Lloyds, the damage to deep-sea vessels alone amounts to $7,000,000. This does not, of course, include the loss suffered by the coasting trade of the United States, estimated as several millions. During the month of January alone one agency reported the loss or partial wreckage of 328 sailing vessels and 510 steamships. One result of the year's storms has been the annihilation of the few wooden schooners left with the American coasting trade. The price of all ocean vessels has risen. It is stated that it costs almost twice as much to buy a ship now as it did three years ago. This increase, it is claimed, is due to the rise in the cost of ship building materials. The rise in marine insurance rates, which was started by the loss of the Titanic, has received additional impulse from the large number of recent wrecks.

GETS PUNITORY DAMAGES.

Washington, May 10.—Frank E. Johnson was awarded punitory damages of $5,000 and compensatory damages of $294 against an insurance company recently by a jury in Milwaukee. Johnson alleged that he was wrongfully discharged by the Simmons Manufacturing Company, of Kenosha, by reason of pressure brought to bear by the insurance company. He testified that some time previous to last January he lost an eye while at work, but after recovering sufficiently he returned to work and tried to get a settlement with the insurance company, which carried the workmen's compensation risk; that the company offered him $75, which he refused, and that shortly thereafter he was discharged. Other evidence was produced, on which the jury decided that the discharge was due to the demands of representatives of the insurance company on the employer. This is the first judgment of this kind in Wisconsin. It is said, however, that there was one of the same nature in Massachusetts and two in Illinois, this statement having been made by the publication called the "Western Underwriter."

THIS IS INTERESTING:

Washington, May 10.—The following item appeared recently in the Portland, Ore., Labor Press: "Portland is in the midst of a lively political campaign, and as usual the politicians are as busy as bees trying to get organized labor's vote. This time they are being placed between the devil and the deep sea, for the Typothetae, the employing printers' organization, has sent them word that if they dare to have the union label on their printing, all and each of the thirty-two members of that organization, with their families, will vote against them, while they are sure that if they do not use the label the thousands of voters in organized labor will forget them on election day. Verily, it is a hard position to put the poor politician in, and we feel that the action of the Typothetae is 'real rude.' In the meantime, the printers and allied trades are having a good laugh. The Typothetae must be hoeing a hard row."

JANUARY BUILDING OPERATIONS

Washington, May 10.—According to Bradstreet's, the building returns for January make a good showing, as compared with January of a year ago. Ninety-eight cities in the country show a total expenditure permitted for in January, this year, of $46,642,361, as against $59,499,522 in December, 1912, and $35,209,549 in January last year. This shows a decrease of 22.7 per cent over December, and a gain of 30.5 per cent over January, 1912. There is a very general tendency toward increases, shown by various cities, as compared with January of last year. In the ninety-eight cities reported, seventy-five, or just about three-quarters, show gains over January a year ago. The gains here shown, coupled with the fact that January this year was an exceptionally mild period, point to the building trades having been fairly well employed, and this view is strengthened by the reports received of active demands for builders' material.

URGES LONGER SCHOOL YEAR

Nine Months Suggested for Rural Communities.

FOUR MONTHS IN SOME STATES

Desires Minimum Qualifications for Teachers Materially Raised.

Washington, May 10.—Dr. P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, in a letter to the superintendents of public instruction in the various States, directs attention to the present short rural term and makes an earnest plea for a campaign by the State officers for a nine months' term for country schools, the same as city schools now have. Many of the State superintendents have already pledged their assistance in a nation-wide movement to bring this about.

The average length of the rural school term is only 138 days, or a little less than seven months, while for the cities it is 184 days, or more than nine months. Only two States—Connecticut and Rhode Island—have school terms exceeding nine months in the rural districts. Eleven others have country school terms of between eight and nine months. They are California, Iowa, Michigan, Maryland, Kansas, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, South Dakota, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Many States are considerably below the seven months' average. Florida and Arkansas keep their schools in rural districts open for five months, while North Carolina, South Carolina, and New Mexico have apparently been providing their country children with barely four months and a half of schooling every year.

Dr. Claxton asks a minimum school term for the rural districts of eight or nine months, eight temporarily; a minimum qualification for rural teachers of four years of high school and not less than two years of college or normal school education, and good libraries for all rural schools.

WOMEN WAGE EARNERS.

Washington, May 10.—According to the statistics contained in a statement just issued by the Census Bureau there were 52,448 women sixteen years of age and over employed in the District of Columbia on April 15, 1910. The figures given in this statement do not include all that are employed, there being a considerable number below the minimum age referred to. The figures here given comprise 39.6 per cent of all the females of the District on the date mentioned, or 36 per cent of the females ten years old and over. The majority of these women are employed under what may be termed domestic and personal service, and as is well known, the colored population is large, and as a consequence fully half of the gainfully employed women in the District of Columbia are colored. Strictly clerical occupations give employment to 8,328 women, including more than 5,600 women clerks and stenographers in the government departments.

GENEROSITY (?)

The Union Leader, published in Chicago by the employes of the traction lines, printed an incident recently that depicts the lengths to which some managers of street car companies will go to keep wages down to the lowest point, and the questionable schemes employed to gain sympathy. Here it is:

A short time ago one of our international officers was associated with a local committee in a conference with traction officials down the State. The controversy was somewhat serious and one of the company officials dwelt strongly on the generous treatment of the employes by the company. He cited the case of a deceased employe who had been in the service many years, and when no longer able to work had been tendered a pension by the company.

"Yes," answered the international officer, "we have investigated that case and find that your company first sent a doctor to the old fellow's home, and learning that he could live but a short time you immediately put him on a pension of $5 a week for two weeks, when the old fellow died, and you have been making capital of it ever since. Our association buried him and paid his beneficiary $800 and we haven't said a word about it."

And that was the fact. When the company found out the old employe's condition they instituted a pension, at an expense of $10, and tried to hold that up as a master stroke of philanthropy in looking after the welfare of their old men.

METAL MINING HAZARDOUS.

Washington, May 10.—Mining for gold, silver, copper, iron, and other metals is a more hazardous occupation in the United States than digging coal. With great disasters occurring at intervals in the coal mines and the fatalities running high, the impression prevails that no other branch of the mining industry sustains such a high rate of fatalities as coal mining. The United States Bureau of Mines, however, is authority for a statement recently given publicity, that the metal mines in 1911 recorded fatalities of more than four men for every 1,000 employed. In other words, the rate was 4.19, while the death rate in the coal mines for the same year was 3.73 to every 1,000 employed. The greater proportion of deaths in the metal mines is all the more striking when it is understood that in the metal mines there is practically an entire absence of the gas and dust that causes explosions in coal mines. It is also asserted that the American death rate in the metal mines is only exceeded by three other countries, Mexico, Peru, and the Transvaal. It compares this country's record of 4.19 men killed in every 1,000 employed with Great Britain's record of 1.64, Germany's of 1.23, and France's of 2.16. The reason assigned for the greater death rate in metal mining is that the majority of States have established systematic coal mine inspection, while in many of the States where metal mining is carried on there is no inspection whatever. The number of deaths of metal miners in 1911 is given as follows: Arizona, 70; California, 38; Colorado, 42; Idaho, 22; Michigan, 134; Minnesota, 76; Missouri, 38; Montana, 62; Nevada, 50 New Jersey, 23; Utah, 48. Deaths in the metal mines added to those in the coal mines, make a total of 2,414 men killed during 1911 in mining, or 3.81 to every 1,000 employed.

AIMED AT FEDERAL COURTS.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Ashurst of Arizona has given notice that he desires to withdraw the recommendations which he has filed with the President for the appointment of a Federal judge in the State which he represents. The Senator proposes to his constituents that they petition the Governor to call an election to designate the people's choice of a district judge for the federal district of Arizona. The Senator, in a letter to his constituents, says: "I am anxious to see an advisory election held in Arizona at the earliest practical date in order that the people may have an opportunity to express their choice for Federal judge." He further refers to the recent adoption of the amendment which amends the Constitution of the United States and authorizes the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people, and bases his contention mainly upon this fact.

NEW YORK LABOR STATISTICS

Decrease of Unemployment Over Same Period Last Year.

STRIKES PROMINENT FEATURE

Many Cases in Court Involving Employers' Liability Emphasizes Needed Legislation.

Albany, May 10.—Statistics made public recently by the Bureau of Labor indicate that in the last six months of 1912 the number of workers unemployed in the State was decidedly less than in the corresponding months of 1911. The figures were compiled from reports of 183 trade unions, having 132,000 members, a membership equal to 21 per cent of all the trade unionists in the State.

The improvement as to idleness, the bulletin states, was shared by the principal groups of trades, including the building, transportation, and metal industries. However, in the clothing and textile trades a higher percentage of idleness was reported. This was due to the strikes in the garment trades and the textile workers.

But for the garment workers' strike, involving 125,000 persons, the last three months of 1912 would have been notable for fewer strikes and lock-outs than in the corresponding months of any recent year except 1908.

In the last three months of 1912 the Bureau of Mediation and Arbitration intervened in twelve disputes and settled nine of them.

Attention is called to the settlement of the strike of the textile workers at Little Falls. In this connection the bulletin says: "But the investigation of wages and cost of living had brought to light the existence before the reduction of wages and standards of living, both so low as to be a matter of public concern, with the probability of the existence of similar conditions elsewhere in the industry, which is one of the leading ones in the State. This problem manifestly was unaffected by the settlement of the strike and must be regarded as one still standing in need of investigation."

With the exception of one case of anthrax, lead poisoning was the only "industrial disease" reported in December, January, and February.

Referring to recent court decisions affecting toilers, the bulletin says: "As usual, a considerable number of employers' liability cases appear in the record and constitute continued evidence of the great uncertainty inherent in laws based on negligence, which uncertainty has been the source of many of the evils of liability laws."

The report also cites an opinion by Attorney General Carmody, holding illegal an agreement between an employer and an employe for forfeiture of wages by the latter in case of failure to give notice of intention to leave employment.

MOTIVE IN STORY.

Washington, May 10.—The following press dispatch was sent out from Sharon, Pa. It has the thumb marks of the steel trust, and should be entitled "How to Be Happy on 30 Cents a Day." Here it is: After a stay of five years in India, where he had charge of the mills and blast furnaces of the Tata Iron & Steel Company, in Satchki, O. O. Laudig has returned. In company with many workmen, largely employes of the blast furnaces of Western Pennsylvania, Laudig left here and successfully operated the mills. The holdings of the Tata Iron & Steel Company consists of two blast furnaces, four basic steel open hearth furnaces, a combination rail and structural mill and a small shape mill. Skilled native mechanics draw 32 cents a day, native laboring men 7 to 9 cents a day, while the women are given 6 to 8 cents for their daily toil. And the women do the hard and heavy work just like the men. The husbands always work with their wives and keep them hustling. When asked if the natives live well on the wage they received, Mr. Laudig said: "I never saw more smiles among the workers of India than I have seen elsewhere. They live comfortably on the money they receive and seem happy."

SUBMITTED TO PEOPLE.

Austin, Tex., May 10.—The recent session of the State Legislature finally voted to permit the people of Texas an opportunity to approve or disapprove the initiative, referendum and recall. These amendments to the State Constitution will be voted on at the election to be held next November. The initiative, referendum and recall were the preferential measures of the Texas State Federation of Labor, and the organized farmers of the State are also favorable to them. Officials of the State Federation now urge that organized labor bestir itself to the end that these measures may receive an overwhelming affirmative vote.

STOCK YARD WORKERS.

Chicago, May 10.—The effect of the literature printed in various languages under the authority of the American Federation of Labor is now being felt and sentiment is rapidly growing among this class of workers in favor of organization. There are thousands of foreigners working at the packing houses and receiving a pittance as a wage. The Chicago Federation of Labor, aided by organizers of the American Federation of Labor, are actively at work preparing for the organization of one of the largest foreign speaking unions in the country.

INTIMATES EXTENSION.

Washington, D. C., May 10.—The Postmaster General has intimated that the department is considering the advisability of recommending that postmasters above the fourth class be brought under the Civil Service rules. The transference of 40,000 fourth class postmasters to the classified Civil Service by President Taft is substantially concurred in, and it is believed that candidates for the office of fourth class postmasters will be compelled to stand an examination in the future. This latter fact, it is said, has had the effect of inducing thousands of fourth class postmasters to tender their resignations.

WANT LOBBYISTS TO REGISTER.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Kenyon of Iowa has introduced a bill that prohibits all former Senators or Representatives from acting as lobbyists unless at the request of a committee or a member. According to the provisions of the bill every lobbyist will have to be registered in the office of the clerk of the House, and the Secretary of the Senate, and in addition set forth his or her interest in pending measures. A penalty of from $500 to $5,000 for violation of the law is provided.

CAMPAIGN POSTPONED.

Wheeling, W. Va., May 10.—Owing to the recent flood, the plans under way for promoting a labor forward movement have been postponed for the time being. The flood has caused a serious loss to the labor people in this city, and it was deemed advisable to wait until matters adjusted themselves before entering upon a campaign of organization.

EXTRA COPIES.

Washington, May 10.—Extra copies of this issue of the Weekly News Letter will be mailed to all applicants gratis.

WASHINGTON MINIMUM WAGE.

Seattle, May 10.—The minimum wage law for women, which passed the State Legislature, will now be turned over to a minimum wage commission to be appointed by the Governor. It is provided in the measure that a commission shall investigate and establish such standard of wages and conditions of labor for women and minors employed within the State as shall be held to be reasonable and not detrimental to the health or morals, and which shall be sufficient for the decent maintenance of women. The commission is empowered to determine wages and conditions of labor, and can enforce its mandate by an obligatory order. According to the law, an employer who discharges or in any manner discriminates against an employe because such employe has testified or is about to testify, or because such employe may testify in any investigation or proceeding relative to the enforcement of the law, will be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and upon conviction will be subject to a fine ranging from $25 to $100.

RIGHTS OF STRIKERS

Boston, May 10.—In negotiations between striking employes and employers to adjust their differences, the former have a right legally to insist on their union being recognized instead of the employers taking the position that they will deal only with individual employes and not with any committee of a union. Such is the ruling made by Judge Loring of the Supreme Court recently in the action of John Cornellier against the Haverhill Shoe Manufacturers' Association. The judge further held that it was lawful for employes to associate themselves with a union to benefit their conditions, and they had a right to have the union present their demands to employers. This is the first time that the issue has been passed on judicially. Cornellier was employed in the Witherell & Dobbins Company factory, Haverhill, and went on strike January 12, 1912. Later a sympathetic strike was called in a number of other shops. January 13 of this year Cornellier filed a bill to restrain the manufacturers' association from circulating a blacklist, alleging that he was deprived of obtaining a job because of its circulation. He also claimed damages and was awarded $250 by Arthur P. Hardy as master. Judge Loring recommitted the case to the master to determine whether Cornellier took any part in the sympathetic strike. If it is found that he did take part the judge says he will not be entitled to maintain his bill in equity because he could not complain if the manufacturers refused to give him work as a result of a condition that he was instrumental in bringing about. Fred W. Mansfield, counsel for Cornellier, says his client was in no way active in the sympathetic strike, but was merely passive. The master will also further consider the question of damages. Ultimately the matter will go to the full bench on the issue of whether the Manufacturers' Association has a right to circulate a blacklist.

SERE AND YELLOW LEAF

Recently the Chicago Tribune printed the following editorial:

Gray hair does not work in well in our modern industrial scheme. A man of forty is more often a candidate for the scrap heap than for promotion. The machine does not respect old age, but it yields to strong muscles.

In the professions alone gray hair is not yet a passport to the land of unemployment. Here the experience which comes with age, the accumulation of facts and knowledge which time alone permits, still bring rewards and security to the man who is no longer in his prime.

Apparently, however, the spirit of industry is invading the professions, and here, too, gray hair is becoming a terror. By the terms of the German insurance act the correct age of the person insured against old age, sickness, and infirmity must be given.

The actors, and especially the actresses, protest against this provision. At present talent and youthful appearance are sufficient to secure an engagement, they say. When the manager knows the right age of every actress or actor, they assert, this knowledge will prejudice him against the elderly members of the playing fraternity, regardless of their dramatic talent and ability to appear young.

What is true in Germany is even more true here. Only in the United States there is no insurance act to press the question of age to the front, as it has been pressed in Germany. The problem of the aged and the aging, the assurance that they will not be deprived of their bread and butter on account of gray hair, must before long become an important issue for industry and the government to consider.

CRITICIZES EQUIPMENT.

Washington, May 10.—Hiram W. Belnap, chief inspector of safety appliances, has called the attention of the Interstate Commerce Commission to the apparent increase in the number of defects in the freight equipment and locomotives of railroads, and strongly recommends that the commission require carriers to report semi-annually the progress made on the equipment of their rolling stocks. It also was asserted that the freight and passenger cars and locomotives inspected during the last fiscal year showed that more than 61 per cent per 1,000 are defective. "In many instances our inspectors have found that the only test made of the efficiency of train brakes is one intended to show that the air is working through the train line," says Mr. Belnap. "Under such a system of inspection the train crew has no means of knowing the actual condition of the air brakes. Such practices cannot be too severely condemned." Included in the statement to the commission is a summary showing that during the last fiscal year the total number of casualties on steam roads was 180,123, of which 10,585 were killed and 169,538 injured.

SPRINKLER FITTERS WIN.

Minneapolis, May 10.—The members of the local union of Sprinkler Fitters and Helpers have returned to work, after a three weeks' strike and lockout. The strike and lockout were caused by the companies involved refusing to accede to the demands for an increase in wages. After a three weeks' strike, however, negotiations were opened and a settlement satisfactory to the union has been made. The concession secured is an advance of 25 cents a day until December 31, 1913, when another advance of 25 cents is to be given, running to April 30, 1916. This is the second victory won by this local union in the past four years.

SWITCHMEN TO MEET.

Houston, Tex., May 10.—The Switchmen's International Union of North America will hold its convention here, beginning on Monday, May 26, and will be in session the entire week. The local movement is preparing an extensive programme to entertain the switchmen.

PROPERTY OWNED BY LABOR UNIONS

Washington, May 10.—The American Federation of Labor has compiled, so far as it has been able to get accurate information, the names of the cities where labor temples have been erected by organized labor. It has been a difficult task, and no doubt there are many omissions, owing to lack of information. Where the value of the property is known it is given after the city. The following is a list of cities where labor temples have been erected:

Atlanta, Ga.; Boston, Mass.; Brooklyn, N. Y.; Everett, Wash.; Haverhill, Mass.; Jacksonville, Ill., cost $5,000; Kansas City, Mo.; Lincoln, Nebr., purchase price $20,000, present value estimated at $30,000; Los Angeles, Cal.; New York City; Paterson, N. J., cost $40,000; Quincy, Ill., cost $13,500; Racine, Wis., cost $40,000; Rock Island, Ill., cost $30,000; Rock Springs, Wyo., cost $30,000, owned by five locals of United Mine Workers; Sacramento, Cal., cost $95,000; Salt Lake City, Utah, cost $40,000; San Jose, Cal., cost $30,000; Seattle, Wash.; Sedro-Woolley, Wash.; Tampa, Fla., cost $7,000; Toronto, Ont., Canada, purchase price $30,000, present value estimated at $65,000; Utica, N. Y.; Vallejo, Cal., cost $12,000; Victor, Colo., cost $36,000, owned largely by the Western Federation of Miners; Walla Walla, Wash., cost $5,000; Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

List of cities where labor temple associations have been formed by the labor unions for the purpose of securing funds to purchase a site and construct labor temples:

Birmingham, Ala.; Butte, Mont.; Cleveland, Ohio; Evansville, Ind.; Fon du Lac, Wis.; Galesburg, Ill.; Hamilton, Ont., Canada; Hoquiam, Wash.; Jackson, Mich.; Meridian, Miss.; Newburgh, N. Y.; Pasadena, Cal.; Rochester, N. Y.; San Antonio, Tex.; Schenectady, N. Y.; Sheboygan, Wis.; Spokane, Wash.; Springfield, Mass.; Stockton, Cal.; Tacoma, Wash.; Troy, N. Y.; Wilkesbarre, Pa.

The following is a list of the international unions that have either erected or purchased buildings which are being used as general headquarters:

Brewery Workers' International Union; headquarters located at Cincinnati, Ohio; value of property $40,000.

United Brotherhood of Carpenters, located at Indianapolis, Ind.; property cost $73,000, with estimated value at present time of $100,000.

National Brotherhood of Operative Potters; located at East Liverpool, Ohio; cost, $5,000.

Internationl Printing Pressmen's Union; located at Rogersville, Tenn. The property also includes a home for superannuated, a sanatorium, and technical trade school.

The Brotherhood of Railroad Telegraphers, with headquarters in St. Louis, Mo., is the owner of a valuable building site, and a combined headquarters and business structure will be erected in the future.

It is also interesting to note that there are a large number of local unions that have erected buildings in various parts of the country, the name of the union and the location being as follows:

Bartenders' Union, St. Louis, Mo.; Beer Bottlers, No. 187, St. Louis, Mo., cost, $25,000; Beer Drivers, No. 43, St. Louis, Mo., cost, $40,000; Brewers and Drivers, Nos. 4 and 16, Buffalo, N. Y., jointly, cost $15,000; Brewers' Union, Baltimore, Md.; Brewers' Union, Philadelphia, Pa.; Brewery Workers, No. 6, St. Louis, Mo., cost, $25,000; Brewery Workers, No. 7, San Francisco, Cal., cost $20,000; Bricklayers' Union, Chicago, Ill.; Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, No. 77, San Francisco, Cal.; Building Laborers and Hod Carriers' Union, Chicago, Ill.; Carmen, Brotherhood of Railway, Lodge, Cranbrook, B. C.; Carpenters, District Council, Cincinnati, Ohio, cost $17,000; Carpenters' Local, No. 36, Oakland, Cal.; Carpenters' Local, No. 1473, Fruitvale, Cal.; Loom Fixers' Local, Fall River, Mass.; Metal Polishers, No. 73, Wallingford, Conn.; Metal Workers, Sheet, No. 104, San Francisco, Cal., cost $13,000; Mine Workers' Local, Centerville, Iowa.

It is known that the local unions of the United Mine Workers own and control a large number of buildings throughout the various mining camps, but no data is available at this time to give the names and location. they are located.

The local unions of the Western Federation of Miners have extensive property interests in the metalliferous mining camps of the West, these interests being divided between buildings erected for meeting halls and other purposes and hospitals. The following is a list of the halls and hospitals owned by the local unions in the towns and cities named, as well as the value thereof:

Butte, Mont., hall, $25,000; Lead, S. Dak., hall, $75,000; Central City, Colo., hall, $2,000; Granite, Mont., hall, $1,120; Terry Peak, hall, $17,900; Phoenix, B. C., hall, $20,000; Burke, Idaho, hall, $2,000; Gem, Idaho, hall, $1,500; Deadwood, hall, $7,300; Great Falls, Mont., hall, $13,300; Greenwood, B. C., hall, $1,680; Silverton, Colo., hall and hospital, $75,000; Rossland, B. C., hall, $10,000; Bourne, Oreg., hall, $3,000; Randsburg, Cal., hall, $2,000; Virginia City, Mont., hall, $1,500; Mojave, Cal., hall, $3,000; Central City, hall, $2,500; Ward, Colo., hall, $18,000; Telluride, Colo., hospital, $20,000; Bingham Canyon, Utah, property, $10,000; Sandon, B. C., hall and hospital, $20,450; Ymir, B. C., hospital, $9,740; Grass Valley, Cal., hall, $1,180; Douglas Island, Alaska, hall, $4,960; North Moccasin, Mont., hall, $1,200; McCabe, Ariz., hall, $3,000; Tonopah, Nev., hospital, $8,000; Snowball, Ariz., hall, $1,500; Elk Lake, Ontario, Canada, hall, $1,350; Park City, Utah, hall and hospital, $8,000; Tintic District, Utah, hall, $16,700; Index, hall, $1,000; Goldfield, Nev., hall and hospital, $20,500; Ishpeming, Mich., hall, $2,200; Nome, Alaska, hall, $3,000; Manhattan, Nev., hospital, $1,500; Bullion, Nev., hall, $1,000; Vernon, Nev., hall, $3,700; Rawhide, Nev., hospital, $2,200; Pioche, Nev., Hall, $1,500, Cripple Creek, Colo., hall, $30,000; Victor, Colo., hall, $60,000.

The local unions of musicians attached to the American Federation of Musicians are well represented in the list of local unions owning their own headquarters, and are as follows:

Baltimore, Md.; Chicago, Ill.; Detroit, Mich.; Newark, N. J.; New York, N. Y.; Philadelphia, Pa.; San Francisco, Cal.; St. Louis, Mo., and Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Teamsters Local Union, No. 85, of San Francisco, Cal., owns a building valued at $29,000.

As is well known, the International Typographical Union conducts a home at Colorado Springs, Colo., the value of which must be close to half a million dollars.

The Weavers' Progressive Association, of Fall River, Mass., owns property valued at $61,000.

The White Rats (actors) of New York City, own a clubhouse.

At Humboldt, Cal., the unions maintain a union labor hospital.

As stated in the opening paragraph of this article, this is not a complete list, and undoubtedly there are many labor organizations that are the owners of valuable property, but the facts have not been reported to the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor, either directly or indirectly, so that a record could be made. It is desirable that where omissions have been made that the information be supplied to the A. F. of L., in order that future articles bearing upon this phase of the movement may be more nearly correct than the one here printed.

PRODUCER TO CONSUMER DIRECT

The San Antonio Express recently published this interesting story:

An experiment which is to be made by an organization of Texas farmers to ship vegetables direct to consumers in Chicago will be watched with considerable interest by those who are studying the problems of marketing farm products.

This Texas organization is to ship to Chicago hampers filled with cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, onions, radishes, lettuce, spinach, and turnips sufficient, it is estimated, to last a family of five a week, and will be sold for $1.20, which, it is said, is from $2 to $3 less than a similar supply of vegetables sell for in Chicago under the existing methods. Onions will be sold at distributing stations at 3 cents a pound.

The experiment has been undertaken on the part of consumers by union labor officials, the purpose being to provide the families of workingmen with vegetables at the minimum prices consistent with economic production, shipping, and distribution. If it proves to be successful, it doubtless will lead to the organization of other systems of similar character, and it may be one of the important steps in working out the problem of marketing which has so long vexed both producers and consumers, the one receiving less than a fair price for his vegetables and the other being compelled to pay more than they should bring if their distribution was properly handled.

ABOUT LABOR CAMPS

In a recent issue of the New York Times the following appeared: The investigators of the State Bureau of Industries and Immigration report that there are 2,000 plague spots in this State, the seats of as many insanitary labor camps. More than 50,000 human beings, immigrant laborers in these camps, themselves subject to loathsome epidemic diseases, are spreading infection to the millions of residents in New York's towns and cities. The camps lack even the ordinary accommodations for cleanliness. The employers of this army of ignorant workmen are themselves untaught, or heedless of the physical and economic waste in human energy which they are incurring, to say nothing of the expense in money and lives which they are causing to the communities that suffer from the foul contagion of the camps.

No public authority seems to have jurisdiction over these plague spots. In the improved camps of the Catskill aqueduct workmen and in the new Wickwire camp near Buffalo, conducted by humane and enlightened employers, it has been found that the immigrant laborers are appreciative of better accommodations and respond quickly to the appeal to change their habits of living. The newly created state public health commission, it is reported, is considering a bill which would place all these uncontrolled labor camps under its supervision. When this measure is passed and becomes effective, one of the chief menaces to the public health in this State will be dispelled.

NEW ETHICS OF COURTS

During the recent garment workers' strike in New York many injunctions were issued against the strikers, but one judge disagreed with the policy of promiscuously issuing these writs, and called a halt. The Washington Times commented upon the judge's action as follows:

Mr. Justice Hendrick, of the State Supreme Court for New York County, has denied several petitions for temporary injunctions against the garment workers on strike in New York City. The court has taken a position which does credit to both its legal and its social sense. He said:

"I have decided to try these cases on their merits, and the appellate division has authorized me to sit here for three months, if necessary, to take the testimony. I shall not grant injunctions until I have gone thoroughly into the merits of the cases. I mean to get down to the causes of this strike and clear the atmosphere, if possible."

This means that one more court has been impressed with the impropriety of using the injunction writ with too much freedom; that injunctions will not be issued by it on ex parte statements; that the merits of the cause will be investigated before blanket interference is indulged as against great bodies of workers fighting for what they believe their rights, by what they believe to be strictly legal methods.

It is not many years since the demand for anti-injunction legislation was denounced as the offspring of anarchy. Today, the steering committee of the Republican party in the United States Senate stands committed to the anti-injunction legislation as a part of its party programme. The same leadership which a few years ago was certain that such legislation was subversive of every principle of order and good government, is now in favor of that measure.

The courts seem to be reforming themselves even faster than the Legislatures are doing it for them; but Legislatures, State and national, are lumbering along in the effort to make some progress also. The Progressive platform of human rights and sane management of social and industrial problems is getting crystallized alike into laws and precedents, because it has been accepted as right, and has proved that it has public sentiment at its back.

ELECTRICAL RAILWAY MILEAGE.

Washington, May 10.—Statistics compiled by the Electrical Railway Journal show that the mileage of new electric track built and placed in operation during 1912, including portions of steam railways electrified, was [illegible] miles, as compared with [illegible] in 1911. The total number of electric railway cars ordered during the year was [illegible], as compared with [illegible] in 1911.

TEACHING FARM AGENTS.

Washington, May 10.—The Secretary of Agriculture recently gave a practical demonstration of farm work to a class of 150 county agents. The work of such agents was started in the South under the late Dr. S. A. Knapp, as a result of which farm production in that section has enormously increased. The same kind of work is to be done in the Northern States and the Department of Agriculture is training agents for this work.

HAS HAD WIDE EXPERIENCE

Secretary Redfield of Department of Commerce Interviewed.

VIEWS ARE WELL GROUNDED

Knows the Human Equation, Applied Humanitarian Methods, and Won Success.

Washington, May 10.—Secretary William C. Redfield, of the Department of Commerce, formerly a successful manufacturer and large employer of labor, in an interview with a special writer for one of the daily papers in this city, gave his views in regard to many governmental policies. One of the interesting features was his opinion with reference to the treatment of labor. In answer to the question, "What was your experience with welfare work?" he said:

"Satisfactory in all respects. J. H. Williams, who made me a junior partner in his establishment, was greatly interested in the happy surroundings and mental attitude of his workmen. He gave them bathing facilities long before welfare work became known as a policy or a phrase. I went along with him in his opinions and efforts and lived through and emerged from the day when man was thought to be of less value than the machine he was employed to operate.

"Welfare work is an undeniable success, provided it is not a frill to cover up wrongs or deficiencies. It should be a state of mind and not a means of depriving men of the things they ought to have. Three fundamental requirements must be met, however, before it is attempted. First, good wages. Mr. Williams paid higher wages than were paid by his competitors. Second, regularity of employment. Third, reasonable hours. Welfare work, when supplementing these conditions, is acceptable to the employe and profitable to the employer. If welfare work is intended to be a palliative for low wages or long hours, it will fail, of course.

"The wise manufacturer understands that the men in his shop are more important to him than his machinery, and that their wages do not constitute an expense, but take the tangible form of an investment. The new conscience—and I am going back to a favorite expression of my own—teaches that the well-paid worker, free from overstrain, fatigue, or disease, is the cheapest producer. Let us say that you are employed in my foundry. The moment I realize that your health and happiness, not to mention your prosperity, are, aside from a human view of your case, assets to me, you get light, pure air, and the means of doing your work without danger to your health and efficiency. A happy employe means a happy employer. Good wages, steady jobs, and decent hours. Then welfare work. Without those three fundamentals, or any one of them, welfare work is a failure and can't fool the youngest boy or stupidest man in the establishment."

GROWING IN POPULARITY.

Washington, D. C., May 10.—The popularity of the new Parcel Post system continues to grow prodigiously. The Postoffice Department is in receipt each day of voluminous correspondence requesting information as to the use to which the new service can be taken advantage of. In many instances, farmers are requesting information as to how vegetables, butter, and eggs should be packed for mailing, and declaring their desire to make use of the service to get these products to patrons in the city. A keen interest is being taken in the C. O. D. feature, which is to be inaugurated on the 1st of July. The letters, to a very large extent, indicate that the farmers are preparing to make extensive use of the C. O. D. feature as soon as it becomes operative. At the present time the rural Parcel Post business is proportionately smaller than in the cities. The reason for this, it is asserted, is that the people outside of the thickly populated sections are not familiar with the possibilities of the service. Country merchants in many instances, however, are becoming to understand the situation, and are preparing to get new business existing on the rural routes radiating from their respective towns and villages. Since the installation of the new service more than 250,000 sets of zone rate books and maps have been published to satisfy the public demand.

LABOR MEN APPOINTED.

Indianapolis, Ind., May 10.—Edgar A. Perkins, president of the Indiana State Federation of Labor, has been appointed chief of the State bureau of inspection to fill the unexpired term of Elliott R. Hooton, resigned. Mr. Perkins announced some time ago that he would retire from office in the union movement, he having been for a number of years at the head of the State organization and active in union efforts in other directions. William Dobson, international secretary of the Bricklayers' and Masons' Union, also has been appointed a member of the State board of education.

WOULD JOIN UNION.

Washington, May 10.—During President Wilson's recent speaking tour into New Jersey he gave utterance to the following: "In almost every business there is the active and the silent partner. The silent partner usually sits back and takes the consequences and pays the bills for what the active partner vocally does. Some of my friends and colleagues at Washington think they are hearing the voice of the people when they are only hearing the part that has moved down to Washington and become vocal. If there were more than one President, I would form a union."

CLERKS AND DRIVERS STRIKE.

Buffalo, N. Y., May 10.—The lady and other clerks in many of the department stores, as well as the delivery drivers, are on strike. The causes leading up to the walkout were low wages, long hours, and bad conditions. It was a spontaneous outbreak, for no organization existed prior to the strike. The department stores are badly crippled, but strike-breakers are being employed. Organizers are now perfecting unions among the contestants and efforts will be made to secure a settlement carrying with it the elimination of the conditions that caused the strike.

MOLDERS AFTER NEW SCHEDULE

Philadelphia, May 10.—The molders in this city have presented their demands to the employers, which include a minimum rate of $3.50 per day of nine hours, a 10 per cent increase to all piece workers, time and a half for overtime, and double time for Sundays and legal holidays. The outlook is promising for the molders securing their demands without much friction.

MAY REFUSE WAGE SCALE.

Denver, Colo., May 10.—Denver and Rio Grande officials may not grant the wage increase which the members of the railroad crafts will ask in a new agreement that is being prepared. It is not believed, however, that a contest will ensue, for it is expected that an amicable adjustment will be secured.

UNIFORM MILEAGE BOOK.

Washington, May 10.—A bill to compel railroads to issue interchangeable mileage books, good on all roads, has been introduced in the House by Representative Wallin of New York. It would make a uniform mileage rate of 2 cents applicable to all railroads.

CIVIL SERVICE PROBE.

Washington, May 10.—In all probability resolutions before both the Senate and House, calling for a civil service probe, will be acted on favorably. There are two resolutions aiming to reach the same result, differing only in that one calls for detailed information from the civil service commission, while the other calls upon the Cabinet officers to supply the information. It is proposed in this resolution that the names of all appointees in each branch or bureau shall be furnished, their addresses at the time of appointment; the date thereof; the length of residence; State, territory or district to which accredited at the time of appointment; their politics at the time of appointment and now; whether in the classified or unclassified service and when so placed; their promotions if any and the cause thereof; the demotions, if any, and the cause thereof; also calling for copies of any executive orders which may have been made, extending the classified service, together with the dates thereof, also a statement giving the names and addresses and politics of the employes, those included in State classified service by State executive orders and a statement as to whether they were required to pass any examination before being placed therein. The resolutions also request that changes be suggested either in the administration of the present laws or in the enactment of new or additional legislation.

ENJOINS STATE OFFICIALS.

Roanoke, Va., May 10.—Suit has been filed in the Chancery Court at Richmond by the Blueridge Overall Company, of Roanoke, against State officials and the penitentiary board of directors, to prevent the leasing of convicts to the Star Clothing Company by the State. The Virginia Federation of Labor and the Farmers' Co-operative and Educational Union are behind this suit, which is based upon the alleged unconstitutionality of the act of the last general assembly, under which the present contract for prison labor in Virginia was let. A stubborn fight was made against the convict leasing system during the last session of the Legislature, which resulted in a decided modification of contracts then in force, the number of convicts to be employed being reduced from 2,000 to 500. It is estimated that between 4,000 and 5,000 white women are employed in making shirts and overalls in Virginia, and if the proposed system of leasing convicts becomes effective this number will be deprived of employment. The labor organizations and farmers' unions are a unit in fighting the present State system and will continue this warfare until the obnoxious system is abolished.

BACKED UP.

Sacramento, Cal., May 10.—The Pacific Gas and Electric Company has decided to recognize the recently organized Light and Power Council of California, with which it will at once open negotiations relative to wages and hours of employes. The company has for years past recognized and dealt with the individual unions, but has been unalterably opposed to dealing with the unions collectively. When the various unions whose members are employed by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company recently combined and organized what is known as the Pacific Light and Power Council of California, the company at once posted in its various plants notices to the effect that the company would not recognize or deal with the new council. To bring the company to terms the Light and Power Council instructed its affiliated unions to take a strike vote. The result of the vote showed that the unions favored calling a general strike. When the result of the vote was made known the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, through its board of directors, decided to at once recognize the Light and Power Council of California, which was advised of said action and a date set for the beginning of negotiations for a new wage scale and working agreement

FORCES WAGE RAISE.

Baltimore, Md., May 10.—During the past few months organizers of the American Federation of Labor have quietly sown the seeds of organization among the motormen and conductors on the traction lines. These seeds had begun to take root, but the company, according to a local newspaper, exhibited a smattering of "enlightened selfishness" and advanced the wage rates 1 cent per hour, with the end in view of smothering any organization move. The office employes of the company also share in the increase. It is estimated that the aggregate increase will approximate $180,000 per year. This is the third time the company has advanced wages under similar circumstances, but some of these days the employes will summon sufficient grit to organize.

SILK INDUSTRY AT STANDSTILL.

New York, May 10.—The entire silk industry in this country is at a standstill. The 4,200 weavers in the silk mills of West Hoboken, Union Hill and Jersey City Heights, added to the strikers at Paterson, comprising practically all the workers in this particular industry, are on strike. The weavers in the three first mentioned places are out to secure an eight-hour day, the present workday being ten hours, and a 20 per cent increase in wages. It is asserted that a number of the manufacturers, members of the Manufacturers' Association, have given notice that they propose to break away from the association and treat openly with the strikers for the purpose of reaching a settlement of the difficulty.

NOT AFRAID OF OVERALLS.

Kansas City, Mo., May 10.—A millionaire's son, the Rev. Ernest C. Webb, who forsook motor cars and the easy life for the pulpit, preached his first sermon in this city recently. Among other things he said: "I want the men in overalls and the women in calico to fill this church every Sunday. The crying need of our life today is a poor man's church. I will shed this Prince Albert and preach in homespun if it will help. Not money, but service, is the greatest thing in this world. I would rather be a tub rustler in a jack-mine than a millionaire mine owner who cares for nothing but hearing gold jingle.

SHOP MEN SCORE.

Marshalltown, Iowa, May 10.—The shop men in the employ of the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad have been successful in securing an agreement, whereby they are to receive the standard wages paid upon the other trunk lines of Iowa. Under the terms of the contract the machinists and boilermakers are to receive 41 cents per hour, blacksmiths and carmen an increase of 1 cent per hour; helpers and handy men also get a 1-cent increase in all departments. Better shop conditions and working rules asked for were granted.

URGING INVESTIGATION.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Kern has declared that he will press for the proposed investigation of the conditions among the miners in the Paint and Cabin Creek regions of West Virginia. Much opposition has developed against this plan of procedure from the State government of the State in question, but owing to the wide publicity having been given to conditions obtaining in that State, it is believed that authority for the investigation will be given by the United States Senate.

DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS AFFIRMS FORMER DECISION, BUT REDUCES PENALTY

The Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia handed down its decision in the alleged contempt case of President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell, and Secretary Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, on May 5. The decision sustains the lower court in finding the Federation officials guilty of contempt of court for alleged violation of the injunction in the Bucks Stove and Range Company case in 1907, but held that the sentence of twelve, nine, and six months' imprisonment imposed by Justice Wright were unreasonably excessive.

Justice Van Orsdel wrote the opinion and Associate Justice Robb concurred, while Chief Justice Shepard dissented and submitted an opinion that the judgment should be reversed. The controlling opinion, after reviewing the case, closes with the following:

"Since the only error in the record relates to the excessive punishment imposed, justice requires, and it is so ordered, that the judgment be reversed and the cause remanded with instructions to the court below to enter orders in proper form adjudging respondents, Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell, and Frank Morrison, respectively, guilty of contempt of court and imposing a sentence upon Gompers of imprisonment in the Washington Asylum and jail for the term of thirty days, and upon Mitchell and Morrison each a fine in the sum of $500, and in default of the payment of said fine that they be confined in the Washington Asylum and jail until paid."

The proceedings are the outgrowth of an alleged violation of the injunction issued by Justice Gould on December 18, 1907, and becoming effective December 23, restraining the American Federation of Labor and its officers from continuing a boycott against the St. Louis stove company. It was charged that the three Federation officials ignored the court's decree in public utterances, circulars, and editorials in the American Federationist. In the original proceedings in 1908, which were set aside by the United States Supreme Court, the three defendants were found guilty of contempt, and jail sentences of twelve, nine, and six months, respectively, were imposed upon President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell, and Secretary Morrison. An appeal was taken by the Federation officials to the District Court of Appeals, and the judgment of the lower court was sustained. Then the case went to the United States Supreme Court, which found that the injunction was too broad in its provisions, and the proceedings were referred back to the District Supreme Court, with the option of renewing them.

Within a day after the United States Supreme Court handed down its decision, Justice Wright, on May 16, 1911, named a committee of prosecutors to investigate the case, with a view of preferring new charges. The committee was composed of J. J. Darlington, of Washington; James M. Beck, of New York, and Daniel Davenport, of Bridgeport, Conn., the three attorneys for the stove company in its legal warfare against the American Federation of Labor, and who applied for and secured the injunction, the alleged violation of which being the basis of the contempt proceedings.

This committee of prosecutors reported on June 26, 1911, declaring that there was reasonable cause for another charge of contempt against the Federation officials. On July 31 Justice Wright issued the contempt order, and gave until August 23 to answer. A suggestion that the three respondents apologize to the court was made by the committee of prosecutors, but was turned down emphatically. Following this, testimony was taken before Justice Wright, and the respondents testified in their own behalf, the case consuming many days. Arguments were made before the full bench. Vice President Mitchell was impliedly given an opportunity to apologize, but in a communication to Justice Wright declined to accept the offer.

Chief Justice Shepard dissents from his associates in sustaining the action of the lower court, and held that the criminal contempt charged is an offense against the United States, and is therefore subject to the statute of limitations. On this contention he argues that the entire judgment of the lower court should be reversed.

On May 8, Attorney Ralston applied for a stay of the mandate to give attorneys an opportunity to consult and determine as to the form in which the case will be brought before the United States Supreme Court.

RAILROADS REFUSE ADVANCE

Assume to Protect Public, but Assertion Lacks Proof.

STRIKE VOTE IS TO BE TAKEN

Employes' Officials Ask Pertinent Question, Including a Comparison.

New York, May 10.—The conference committee of managers of Eastern railroads has declined to grant the request made by the conductors and trainmen for an increase in their wage schedules. The committee in a reply sent to the two organizations mentioned asserts that the present wage schedules are liberal and in many cases excessive, and that the request for an increase is declined "in the interest of the owners of railroad securities, in the interest of all railroad employes, and in the interest of the public as a whole." The conference committee in its communication further says: "The wages and working conditions which you request would increase the pay of the 100,000 conductors and trainmen of the railroads in the Eastern district by approximately $17,000,000, or 23 per cent per annum. The increase would be equivalent to the placing on these properties of a lien of $425,000,000 of 4 per cent securities, which would have preference over first mortgage bonds." Immediately following the notice of the managers' committee, it was decided by the officials of the conductors and trainmen to order a poll of the members of these organizations affected to determine whether the power of calling a strike should be put into the hands of the leaders. The wage dispute of the conductors and trainmen closely followed that of the engineers and firemen, both of which organizations secured raises in wages by arbitration, under the Erdman law. The railroads, however, have taken a strong attitude against arbitration of the present difficulty. The railroads are undoubtedly bidding for public sympathy, and the figures which they present undoubtedly are given with this intention. But the aggrieved employes, through their representatives, ask this question: "Is it legitimate to demand that all sacrifice to the public interest must be made by a class of men who have only received 29 per cent in increases during the period since 1890, and levy no tribute for the public interest upon the stockholder, who has in the same period received 429 per cent of increase in his returns from his investment?" It will probably be two weeks before the result of the strike vote is made public.

PLANNING FORWARD MOVEMENT

New York, May 10.—The labor organizations of this city are preparing for an organizing and forward movement, to be commenced on September 1 of this year. The reason the date has been set so far in the future is that New York City and vicinity presents a vast and important field, and a large amount of preliminary detail work is necessary. When it is understood that New York and vicinity contains a population running into the millions, with wage earners forming the great bulk, it can be readily seen what a tremendous task has been mapped out. It is believed, however, that by the time of the date set for the opening of the movement everything will be in readiness to prosecute a campaign the like of which has never been witnessed in the metropolis.

WOULD BAR UNION MEN.

Sacramento, Cal., May 10.—That representatives of labor unions be prohibited from holding a seat in either house of the Legislature was the proposal made in the State Senate recently by Senator Edward J. Tyrrell, of Alameda County, in presenting an amendment, which provides that no person holding a lucrative office under the United States or any other power, or under county, city, or State, is eligible to a seat in the Legislature, and that no member of the Legislature can be appointed to a lucrative office during the term for which he was elected. Tyrrell held that if a representative of city corporations were to be prohibited from holding a seat in the Legislature, representatives of public service corporations, public utilities, and labor unions should also be barred.

ELECTED ON SCHOOL BOARD.

St. Louis, Mo., May 10.—At a recent election held in this city Charles Lammert, president of the Building Trades Council, was elected a member of the School Board for a term of six years. He was the only union man elected upon this board, and will be of much benefit to organized labor.

"FLINTS" GET SETTLEMENT.

Pittsburg, May 10.—The most remarkable contest ever waged in the history of the flint glass trade was brought to a conclusion recently when, during a conference held in Pittsburg between representatives of the workers and officials of the United States Glass Company, it was agreed to settle the differences that have existed during the past twenty years. At the Fort Pitt Hotel a joint meeting was held between the Flints' and manufacturers' representatives and at its conclusion the articles of agreement were signed by all of those present, thus bringing to an end one of the most momentous and far-reaching trade troubles that has occurred within the past two decades, involving as it does hundreds of skilled and unskilled workmen. By the terms of the agreement all the workmen who went on strike are to be reinstated by the United States Glass Company, without prejudice, and it is also agreed that President Rowe and General Superintendent Anderson shall meet with the management and local committees at the various plants operated by the company and agree on a settlement to be made on all unlisted articles of ware. The workers agreed to temporarily waive the summer stop rule with reference to the United States Glass Company, at least for the present year. It is also agreed to exercise reasonable tolerance on the old molds in use in regard to measurement, but all new molds turned out from the date of the agreement are to come under the regular rule. There are quite a number of matters which cannot be mentioned in detail, all looking toward the inauguration of an equitable arrangement, so that matters will progress smoothly in reference to general factory operations.

JOHN KIRBY AND HIS EGOISM

Rushes in Where Angels Are Fearful.

DIFFICULT NOT TO ENVY

"Treason and Cowardice" Impliedly Applied to Members of Congress.

Kirby, the National Association of Manufacturers' loquacious president, has been chattering again anent the provision in the sundry civil bill which prohibits the expenditure of any money in the prosecution of labor organizations and farmers' unions. The following editorial from the New York Globe and Commercial Advertiser, on April 28, under the caption, "Treason Afoot Again," is keen and incisive. Read it:

It is difficult not to envy John Kirby, jr., president of the National Association of Manufacturers. One would like to be as sure, as Peel said of Macaulay, about anything as he is about everything. Difficult questions are difficult to most persons; not so Mr. Kirby, compared with whom Sir Oracle is uncertain and undogmatic.

So Mr. Kirby is able to blast with unhesitating condemnation the provision of the sundry civil bill that exempts labor unions and co-operative organizations of farmers from prosecution under the Sherman law. This bill has been three times passed by the House, with practical unanimity, and once by the Senate, and is about again to be passed by the Senate. Yet the president of the National Association of Manufacturers is led to inquire, "Is not supporting such legislation as President Taft vetoed either treason or cowardice, or both?"

Traitors all are the supposedly honorable members of the two houses of Congress, and, presumptively, President Wilson, who is expected to sign the bill containing the treasonable provision. The Cities of the Plain had eight that were righteous. Washington, so far as can be discerned, has not one. The country has been betrayed, as has regularly happened since Mr. Kirby began to give the public the benefit of his advice and his comment on current events.

It is treasonable, according to this authority, to permit men to form organizations having in view the increasing of wages, the shortening of hours, and the bettering of the conditions of labor. It is also treasonable to allow farmers and fruit raisers to associate together for the common marketing of their product. Such organizations exist by the thousand. No Attorney General has thus far attacked their right to exist. Yet it is wicked to make the law conform to the facts. From time to time there is just complaint of the foolishness and hysteria of political demagogues and of labor agitators. But for high-power foolishness and hysteria of the greatest voltage no one equals a business man of the Kirby type.

WOOLEN MILL STRIKE ENDED

Contest on for Three Months Is Responsible for Increase.

TEXTILE WORKERS WINNERS

Collective Bargaining Receives an Impetus in This Successful Issue.

Trenton, May 10.—The strike of the employes of the Straus Woolen Mill has been settled by the signing of an agreement. The contest was in progress nearly three months. The agreement provides for a 10 per cent increase in wages for all employes receiving $9 per week or less; that all employes are to be reinstated in their former positions; that fifty-five hours shall constitute a week's work; that time and a half shall be received for overtime work; Saturday afternoon to be considered as overtime, and double time for Sundays and holidays; that all matters in dispute shall be adjusted by a standing committee of the union and superintendent of the mill; that there shall be no strikes or lockouts during the life of the agreement. The settlement was affected by a general organizer of the Textile Workers and a committee of the local union. The result is a decided victory for the employes and shows that by determined effort wrongs under which wage-earners labor may be righted. Organizers Travers and Thompson, and Miss Scott, of the Women's Trade Union League, gave valuable assistance in the contest, and were responsible in large part for the victory which has been won.

TO EDUCATE WORKERS.

New York, May 10.—The managements of four factories where white dress goods are made will experiment in the education of girl employes at the public schools. Although the plan is said to have been tried with success before in other cities, it is the first time that New York employers have taken up this work and provided for all expenses. It is said that the experiment, which has been approved by the Board of Education, is an outcome of the recent strike in the garment industry, which revealed a deplorable condition among some of the workers. Sixteen union girls will be the first to benefit from the plan, and not only will their expenses in school be paid, but their wages will go on at the same time. The pupils will not attend school continuously, but only on alternate weeks, one-half of the number selected being at work while the other half is attending school.

PLUMBERS GET MORE.

St. Catherines, Canada, May 10.—The recent settlement of the seven weeks' strike of the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters in this city was a more decisive victory for the union than the press has given credit for. It has been claimed in many quarters that the settlement was in the nature of a compromise, but the terms obtained will have a tendency to dispel any such illusion. The original demand was for a wage scale of 40 cents per hour, the contract to stand for a period of one year, beginning February 1, 1913. The final terms agreed on were as follows: The wage rate to be 37½ cents per hour until June 1, 1913, with an advance upon that date to 40 cents per hour, to remain in force for one year, or until June 1, 1914, when a further advance to 42½ cents per hour takes place, with the agreement to remain in force until June 1, 1915.

ASK LITERACY INVESTIGATION.

Washington, May 10.—Representative Lever of South Carolina has introduced a resolution in the House calling on the Commissioner of Education to make an investigation of illiteracy in the adult population in the United States and report to Congress the causes of it and remedies therefor. The resolution empowers the Secretary of the Interior to ask for private subscriptions for the work, and also to draw on the Treasury for whatever additional funds are needed.

HEAVY TITANIC CLAIMS.

New York, May 10.—Claims aggregating $16,000,000 have been filed by 651 claimants in the Federal District Court against the steamship company which owned the "Titanic. The court recently extended for thirty days the time limit during which certain persons residing abroad might file claims, but the time limit for all other claims has now expired.

ANOTHER STEEL REPORT.

Washington, D. C., May 10.—The Commissioner of Labor has made public another report upon conditions of employment in the iron and steel industry. The investigation was in compliance with a resolution passed by the Senate three years ago. Portions of the report are interesting and the following statement is of particular interest, owing to the fact that the American Federation of Labor is now engaged in an effort to organize the steel workers. "The workmen of the steel industry have no effective means of determining the conditions under which they work, or even of calling attention to those features which they consider unjust, and apart from the fact that a very large number of the workmen cannot make themselves understood either by their superior officers or by many of their fellow workmen, they are almost entirely without organization." While it is noted that the big steel companies have reduced the number of days required or permitted to work to six per week, yet there are still 50 per cent of the blast furnace workmen and 15 per cent of other employes that are on a regular schedule of seven days per week. The proportion of men working twelve hours per day has been practically unchanged except for two plants, which have introduced the eight-hour shift. Concerning the earnings of the steel workers the report declares that the necessity for additions to the family income is shown by the fact that in 1910 only 56 per cent of the iron and steel workers had an opportunity to earn as much as $600 if they worked every day the mill or department was in operation. Only one-sixth of all the workers had an opportunity to earn as much as $900 a year.

A LEGISLATIVE STRIKE.

Phoenix, Ariz., May 10.—A rather interesting situation recently existed in the Arizona Legislature. Some time ago the House passed a resolution commending the work of the clerks and resolving that when extra time was required over and above eight hours, that the clerks be paid for it. The Senate, however, did not take similar action and after several caucuses on the subject, these grave legislators and revered solons of the Upper House decided not to concur in the action taken by the House. Recently the Senate held a night session, but the clerks hinted that they would not be on hand. The hint, however, was not sufficient to urge the Senators to action. At the night session all of the clerks stayed away, from the secretary to the youngest assistant, and all the work—technical, mental and physical—had to be done by the Senators. A local paper in commenting on the situation makes this statement: "There is one thing about the situation that is patent to all the regular visitors to the Statehouse, and that is that the large number of clerks and attaches certainly earn their money. They work as hard as it is possible to work on the copying of bills, engrossing of bills, preparing new bills, copying reports and all that sort of thing, so that when their eight hours are up, they are tired and ready to quit." Other comments are to the effect that early in the session the Senate passed an eight-hour resolution, and it is considered inconsistent for that body now to refuse to pay overtime after the eight hours have been put in.

NOW GOES TO PEOPLE.

St. Paul, May 10.—The State Legislature has submitted an amendment to the State constitution providing for the initiative and referendum. While the bill submitted is far from an ideal one, it will, if carried, establish a precedent. The amendment provides that no amendment to the constitution of the State shall be adopted unless approved by a majority of the electors voting at a State election, or by four-sevenths of the electors voting on the proposed amendment, providing not less than three-sevenths of the electors voting at said election vote for the proposed amendment. The bill, however, contains what might be a joker that may prove advantageous to labor. One-half of the required signatures may be obtained in one county and the other half must be secured in twenty-one other counties. The bill does not provide that any certain number of the petitioners of this one-half shall be secured in each of the other twenty-one counties. It is claimed that the bill which is now to be submitted to the voters of the State, in one respect, at least, is a decided improvement over the bill which passed the House two years ago.

INTRODUCES RETIREMENT BILL.

Washington, May 10.—A specific plan for the retirement of clerks in the civil service is incorporated in a bill introduced, by Representative Austin of Tennessee. Its fundamental principle is the deduction of a set amount of a clerk's pay by the government, and the granting of annuities at a certain age when the clerk is automatically retired. The bill provides that all clerks' salaries shall be increased approximately 15 per cent, and that from the increase shall be deducted a sum sufficient for the purpose of an annuity from the government. The bill works out a plan whereby the government will pay 5 per cent interest on the money deducted from the clerk's pay, it also being provided that there shall be two groups of retiring clerks, one group at sixty-five and another at seventy years. Still further provisions are made for retirement necessitated by accident or ill health, and those who leave the service entirely will not lose the money deducted from their pay by the government, but are to be permitted to withdraw their savings.

URGE FEDERAL MEDIATION.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Hughes and Representative Bremner of New Jersey, have been urged by the business and professional men of Paterson to seek, to have the Department of Labor brought into the strike situation with a view to effecting a settlement of the difficulty. Representative Bremner immediately decided to make an effort to secure an adjudication without Federal aid, and sought to arrange conferences with the interested parties to the end that the manufacturers and strikers might have a medium through which to effect a settlement if possible. Failing in this plan it is quite likely that efforts will be made to invoke a Federal investigation. It is stated that 25,000 mill operatives are involved in the bitter struggle, which has been in progress for eleven weeks.

TEAMSTERS GET COMPROMISE.

Toronto, May 10.—The Teamsters' strike is over and the men have returned to work, pursuant to a compromise agreement made with the cartage companies. First-grade men are to receive $1.80 per day; second-grade, $50 a month; third-grade, $54 a month. The grade of a teamster is determined by his knowledge of the work in the city, and it is asserted that the teamsters can work up to the highest grade in four months. The agreement is an advance of $4 a month.

ORGANIZE FREIGHT HANDLERS

Salt Lake City, May 10.—The railway freight handlers and railway clerks of Salt Lake City have formed a union, the organization being one of the latest to be organized in this city. The charter list contains a goodly number of the men employed in this class of work and the prospects are that it will be augmented by many more in a short time.

TELEPHONE GIRLS GET RAISE

Washington Company Announces Advance in Pay Roll.

BOSTON SETTLEMENT CAUSE

Attempt to Organize Employes Also Contributes to Open Purse of Company.

Washington, May 10.—Increases in the wage scale of telephone operators of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, amounting to $1 a week for regular operators, with allowance for overtime, holiday, and Sunday work and annual payments for those operators who have been in the service two years or more have been announced by the company here. It is declared that these changes have been under consideration for some time, and it is claimed are in conformity with the wages and conditions now existing in New York and Philadelphia. Operators are divided into three groups. Those who have been with the company from two to five years will receive yearly a bonus of $25; those who have been with the company as operators from five to ten years will receive a bonus of $50; and those who have been with the company more than ten years will receive a bonus of $100. The bonus will be paid on the anniversary of the date the girls entered the employ of the company. Recently, when the Boston telephone operators were about to strike this same company sent a number of girls to Boston to act as strike-breakers in case a contest took place. The Boston difficulty, however, resulted in a satisfactory agreement, including a raise in pay, owing to the fact that the local company was willing to use its employes as strike-breakers a movement was set on foot by the local central body to organize the Washington telephone operators. The change in conditions and increase in wages coming on the heels of this indicate that the company foresaw difficulty and the concessions granted came in the nature of an effort to avoid it.

FOR MINERS' PROTECTION.

Denver, Colo., May 10.—The coal miners' safety law has passed both houses. A special committee, consisting of members of the Legislature, coal operators and miners, revised the original bill introduced and came to an agreement upon it. "This law gives Colorado the best and safest working conditions for miners in the world," said John R. Lawson, Colorado's representative on the international board of the United Mine Workers of America. Under the provisions of the law miners in the future will receive pay for mine runs, instead of screen runs. Operators will pay for the firing of shots. Examination of mines must be made before each shift goes on duty. Conditions of each room, printed in all languages spoken by the workmen, must be posted at the room opening. Rescue crews, safety devices, and other necessary equipment must be available for instant use. It is also provided that every working mine must be examined at least every ninety days by the coal-mining inspector or his deputies, who are empowered to close down any mine on a moment's notice which is deemed unsafe. Mining inspectors will have the power to search all those employed at the mine for intoxicating liquors, cigarettes, tobacco, pipes, and matches, and bar from the rooms any member carrying these articles. Timbers are to be delivered into the mine free of charge. Check weighmen are to be provided, to be paid by the workmen. No boys under 16, or women, can be employed in the mines.

TO AMEND PRINTING LAWS.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Smoot of Utah has introduced a bill to revise and codify the printing laws, with reference to the Government Printing Office. The bill was passed by the Senate at the last session, and was favorably reported to the House, but action was not taken thereon. It is proposed to abolish the Senate and House folding rooms and have, the distribution of public documents centralized as much as possible in the Government Printing Office. The bill would give each Senator a credit of $2,000 to draw against for documents to send to his constituents, and $1,600 to each member of the House for the same purpose. At present the law fixes the number of copies of each public document for each Senator and Representative. The proposed change is to give each Senator and Representative an opportunity to have selection of documents to be used. Senator Smoot claims that the bill will effect a saving of $750,000 annually to the government. The printing laws have not been revised, as a whole, for more than twenty years.

RUBBER WORKERS GROWING.

Akron, Ohio, May 10.—A meeting of the Akron Rubber Workers, who are members of the Rubber Workers' Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, was held recently at Grace Park. This gathering was the first of numerous open-air meetings, which are proposed to be held during the summer to carry forward the work of organization. It was announced at the meeting that the membership of the union has now reached 2,761, all of whom have paid their April dues. It was also asserted that the work of organization is rapidly progressing at all of the local plants and that sentiment in favor of the union is constantly growing.

STEAMFITTERS' NEW SCALE.

Cleveland, May 10.—The steamfitters have just negotiated a new wage scale. It provides for an increase of 50 cents a day for journeymen, raising the minimum from $4.50 to $5 per day. The helpers have secured a raise of 25 cents per day, making the minimum $2.50 instead of $2.25. The Saturday half-holiday also has been secured, which runs to and includes Saturday, September 22. The agreement provides for the establishment of a standing committee, composed of three employers and three journeymen, for the purpose of adjusting any grievances that may arise. The agreement runs until September 1, 1915.

TRANSFERABLE TICKETS.

Washington, May 10.—Senator Thomas of Colorado has introduced a bill in the Senate which would make railroad tickets regarded as personal property and which shall be assignable and shall pass by delivery to any holder. A railroad refusing to accept a ticket transferred shall be liable to a fine of $50 and the holder shall have redress by a suit for damages.

REFUSE CONFIRMATION.

Albany, May 10.—Gov. Sulzer recently sent the name of John Mitchell to the State Senate for confirmation as State Commissioner of Labor, and the Senate refused to comply with the Governor's wishes. In the closing hours of the Legislature Gov. Sulzer again sent to the Senate the nomination of John Mitchell and that body repeated its action and again refused to confirm him.

BAKERS SECURE RAISE.

Washington, May 10.—The members of the Bakers' Union in this city have secured a general increase of 25 cents per day from all the Washington bakeries save one company. It is the intention of the bakers to enforce their demands to the point of a strike providing the company referred to does not accede to the advance.